



Monday
April 27, 1998

Part IV

**Department of
Commerce**

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Office of the Secretary

13 CFR Ch. III

15 CFR Subtitle A; Subtitle B, Chs. I, II, III, IV, VII, VIII, IX, and XI

19 CFR Ch. III

37 CFR Chs. I, IV, and V

48 CFR Ch. 13

50 CFR Chs. II, III, IV, and VI

April 1998 Semiannual Agenda of Regulations

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Commerce.

ACTION: Semiannual regulatory agenda.

SUMMARY: In compliance with Executive Order 12866 entitled "Regulatory Planning and Review" and the Regulatory Flexibility Act, as amended, the Department of Commerce, in April and October of each year, publishes in the **Federal Register** an agenda of regulations under development or review over the next 12 months. Rulemaking actions are grouped according to prerulemaking, proposed rules, final rules, long-term actions, and rulemaking actions completed since the October 1997 agenda. The purpose of the agenda is to provide information to the public on regulations currently under review, being proposed, or issued by the Department. The agenda is intended to facilitate comments and views by interested members of the public.

The Department's April 1998 regulatory agenda includes regulatory activities that are expected to be conducted during the period April 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Specific: For additional information about specific regulatory actions listed

in the agenda, contact the individual identified as the contact person.

General: Comments or inquiries of a general nature about the agenda should be directed to Michael A. Levitt, Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulation, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230; telephone: 202-482-0846.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Executive Order 12866 requires agencies to publish an agenda of those regulations that are under consideration pursuant to this order. By memorandum of January 7, 1998, the Office of Management and Budget issued guidelines and procedures for the preparation and publication of the April 1998 Unified Agenda of Federal Regulatory and Deregulatory Actions. The Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*, requires agencies to publish, in April and October of each year, a regulatory flexibility agenda which contains a brief description of the subject area of any rule which is likely to have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The agenda can also identify those entries that have been selected for periodic review under section 610 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Explanation of Information Contained in the Agenda

Within the Department, the Office of the Secretary and various operating units may issue regulations. Operating units, such as the Bureau of Export Administration, the International Trade Administration, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Patent and Trademark Office, issue the greatest share of the Department's regulations.

A large number of regulatory actions reported in the agenda deal with fishery management programs of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). To avoid repetition of programs and definitions, as well as to provide some understanding of the

technical and institutional elements of the NMFS programs, a section on "Explanation of Information Contained in NMFS Regulatory Entries" is provided below.

Explanation of Information Contained in NMFS Regulatory Entries

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*) (Act) governs the management of fisheries within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The EEZ refers to those waters from the outer edge of the State boundaries, generally 3 nautical miles, to a distance of 200 nautical miles. Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) are to be prepared for fisheries which require conservation and management measures. Regulations implementing these FMPs regulate domestic fishing and foreign fishing where permitted. Foreign fishing can be conducted in a fishery for which there is no FMP only if a preliminary fishery management plan has been issued to govern that foreign fishing. Under the Act, eight Regional Fishery Management Councils (Councils) prepare FMPs or amendments to FMPs for fisheries within their respective areas. In the development of such plans or amendments and their implementing regulations, the Councils are required by law to conduct public hearings on the draft plans and to consider the use of alternative means of regulating.

The Council process for developing FMPs and amendments makes it difficult for NMFS to determine the significance and timing of some regulatory actions under consideration by the Councils at the time the semiannual regulatory agenda is published.

The DOC April 1998 regulatory agenda follows.

Dated: February 20, 1998.

Michael A. Levitt,
Acting General Counsel.

Office of the Secretary—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
390	Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs and Activities Receiving or Benefiting From Federal Financial Assistance	0690-AA28

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Office of the Secretary—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
391	Standards of Ethical Conduct—Department of Commerce Supplemental Regulations	0690-AA23

Office of the Secretary—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
392	Guidelines for Empowerment Contracting	0690-AA25

Bureau of Economic Analysis—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
393	Change in Reporting Requirements for BE-15, Annual Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States	0691-AA32

Bureau of Economic Analysis—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
394	Direct Investment Surveys: Raising Exemption Level for Two Surveys of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States	0691-AA31

Bureau of Economic Analysis—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
395	Annual Survey of Royalties, License Fees, and Other Receipts and Payments for Intangible Rights Between U.S. and Unaffiliated Foreign Persons	0691-AA28
396	Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States—1997	0691-AA29
397	Annual Survey of Selected Services Transactions With Unaffiliated Foreign Persons	0691-AA30
398	Change in Reporting Requirements for BE-605, Transactions of U.S. Affiliate, Except a U.S. Banking Affiliate, With Foreign Parent and BE-605 Bank, Transactions of U.S. Banking Affiliate	0691-AA33

Bureau of the Census—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
399	Changes to the Foreign Trade Statistical Regulations (FTSR) to Conform Requirements and Wording to the U.S. Customs Service Requirements for the Automated Export System (AES)	0607-AA19
400	Changes to the Foreign Trade Statistical Regulations (FTSR) To Clarify the Definition of Exporter	0607-AA20
401	Changes to the Foreign Trade Statistical Regulations (FTSR) Requiring a Designator When the Export Shipment Is a Foreign Military Sale	0607-AA22
402	Special Services and Studies by the Bureau of the Census; General	0607-AA24
403	Furnishing Personal Census Data From Census of Population Schedules; General Requirements	0607-AA25
404	Furnishing Personal Census Data From Census of Population Schedules: General Requirements	0607-AA26
405	Special Services and Studies by the Bureau of the Census; Fee Structure for Age Search and Citizenship Information	0607-AA27

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Bureau of the Census—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
406	Cutoff Dates for Recognition of Boundary Changes for the 2000 Decennial Census of Population and Housing	0607-AA18

Economic Development Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
407	General Requirements for Financial Assistance—Excess Capacity	0610-AA55
408	Simplification and Streamlining of Regulations of the Economic Development Administration	0610-AA58

Economic Development Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
409	Regulations Contingent on the Economic Development Partnership Act of 1998	0610-AA56
410	Trade Act—Adjustment Assistance for Communities	0610-AA57

General Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
411	Uniform Administrative Requirement for Grants and Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofits and Commercial Organizations	0605-AA09

General Administration—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
412	Administrative Requirements for Grantees To Reflect Single Audit Act Amendments	0605-AA11

International Trade Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
413	Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Proceedings; Administrative Protective Order Procedures and Procedures for Imposing Sanctions for Violation of a Protective Order	0625-AA43
414	Antidumping Duties; Countervailing Duties	0625-AA45
415	Procedures for Conducting Five-Year (Sunset) Reviews of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders	0625-AA51

International Trade Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
416	Export Trade Certificates of Review (15 CFR 325)	0625-AA52

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International Trade Administration—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
417	Technical Amendments to Regulations of the Foreign Trade Zones Board	0625-AA49
418	Limit on Duty-Free Insular Watches in Calendar Year 1998	0625-AA50

Bureau of Export Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
419	Defense Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS)	0694-AA02
420	Transfer of Certain Remote Sensing Satellites From the U.S. Munitions List to the CCL	0694-AB09
421	Administration of State Log Exports Ban	0694-AB25
422	Change the Commerce Control List To Revise Controls on Communication Intercepting Devices (Export Commerce Control Number ECCN 5A980)	0694-AB41
423	Licensing of, and Expansion of National Security and Foreign Policy Controls on, Recoverable Encryption Software	0694-AB47
424	Clarification of License Exception GFT (Humanitarian Donations)	0694-AB49
425	Revisions to EAR as a Result of the Addition of Brazil and Ukraine to the Nuclear Suppliers Group	0694-AB50
426	Revisions to Commerce Control List: Addition of Technology and Software Controls for Certain Crime Control Commodities	0694-AB53
427	De Minimis Exclusion for Technology and Software	0694-AB62
428	Revisions to Antiterrorism Controls	0694-AB63
429	Revision to ECCN 1C350 (Mixtures): Removal of Solvent Free Basis Calculation Requirement and Trace Quantity Exemption	0694-AB66
430	Implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention; Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations	0694-AB67

Bureau of Export Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
431	Revision of Foreign Boycott Provisions of Export Administration Regulations	0694-AA11
432	Transfer of Dual-Use Items From U.S. Munitions List to the Commerce Control List	0694-AA52
433	Implementation of Chemical Weapons Convention	0694-AB06
434	Clarification of Enhanced Proliferation Control Initiative (EPCI) "Catch-All" Provision and Validated License Requirements	0694-AB10
435	Libya: Expansion of Foreign Policy Controls	0694-AB28
436	Exports of Technology and Software; Release of Technology or Source Code to Foreign Nationals in the United States	0694-AB59
437	Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations; Additions to the Entity List	0694-AB60

Bureau of Export Administration—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
438	Implementation of the Wassenaar Arrangement List of Dual-Use Items: Revisions to the Commerce Control List and Reporting Under the Wassenaar Arrangement	0694-AB35
439	Revisions and Clarifications to the Export Administration Regulations; Commerce Control List	0694-AB55
440	Oscilloscopes: ECCNs 3A202 and 3E201	0694-AB61
441	Revisions to the Export Administration Regulations: Duty To Inquire	0694-AB64
442	Exports of High Performance Computers Under License Exception CTP	0694-AB65

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National Institute of Standards & Technology—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
443	National Type Evaluation Program	0693-AB45
444	NIST Traceable Reference Materials Program	0693-AB46

National Institute of Standards & Technology—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
445	Procedures for Implementation of Fastener Quality Act	0693-AB43
446	Amendments to the Advanced Technology Program Regulations	0693-AB44

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
447	Amend the Bluefin Statistical Document to Allow for the Attachment of Re-export Certificates	0648-AL02

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Proposed Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
448	Amendment 10 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Atlantic Surf Clam and Ocean Quahog Fisheries	0648-AF41
449	Fishery Management Plan for Tilefish	0648-AF87
450	Amendment 1 to the Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Billfish	0648-AF88
451	Regulatory Amendment for Managing Pelagic Fisheries by U.S. Vessels Beyond EEZ Throughout Pacific	0648-AG85
452	Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands	0648-AG87
453	Amendment 1 to the Fishery Management Plan for Corals and Reef-Associated Plants and Invertebrates for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands	0648-AG88
454	Regulatory Amendment for the Gulf of Alaska Seamount Fisheries	0648-AG94
455	Amendment 1 to the Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Bluefish	0648-AH63
456	Regulatory Amendment Requiring Longline Vessel Operators in the Western Pacific Pelagic Fisheries To Carry Observers at No Cost to U.S. Government	0648-AI31
457	Regulatory Amendment To Adjust the Annual Total Allowable Catch for Royal Red Shrimp in the Gulf of Mexico ...	0648-AI39
458	Regulatory Amendment To Require Electronic Submission by Alaska Groundfish Processors of Weekly Production Reports and Check In/Out Reports	0648-AI66
459	Amendment to the Observer Program	0648-AI69
460	Fishery Management Plan for the Atlantic Herring Fishery	0648-AI78
461	Regulatory Amendment To Revise the Product Recovery Rate Regulations	0648-AI87
462	Proposed Rule To Implement Vessel Identification and Reporting Requirements under the High Seas Fishing Compliance Act of 1995	0648-AI99
463	Fishery Data Reporting for Western Pacific Pelagic Fisheries	0648-AJ08
464	Regulatory Amendment To Extend California Gillnet Regulations to the EEZ	0648-AJ21
465	Amendment 10 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP Regarding Salmon Bycatch in Groundfish Trawl	0648-AJ22
466	Amendment 7 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery	0648-AJ33
467	Implementation of Use of Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System To Monitor Commercial Landings of Quota Managed Species on Weekly Basis	0648-AJ37
468	Implementation of a Fishery Management Plan for Monkfish	0648-AJ44
469	Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Scallop Fishery Off Alaska	0648-AJ51
470	Regulatory Amendment To Establish a Program for the Collection and Use of Fees in the Individual Fishing Quota and Community Development Quota Programs	0648-AJ52
471	Implementation of Pacific Insular Area Fishing Agreement Provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act	0648-AJ60
472	Atlantic Shark Fisheries; Amendment 2 (Including Rebuilding Schedule)	0648-AJ64
473	Atlantic Tuna Fisheries; Regulatory Adjustments	0648-AJ66

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
474	Atlantic Tuna Fisheries; Fishery Management Plan Implementation	0648-AJ67
475	Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Measures to Manage the Drift Gillnet Section of the Atlantic Swordfish Fishery ..	0648-AJ68
476	Proposed Rule To Implement Procedures for Issuance of Permits Under Section 204(d) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act	0648-AJ70
477	Interim Final Rule to the Fishery Management Plan for the American Lobster Fishery	0648-AJ74
478	Fisheries Obligation Guarantee Program—Statutory Amendments to Establish “Central Title and Lien Registry for Limited Access Permits”	0648-AJ77
479	Regulatory Amendment To Change Membership Requirements for the Regional Fishery Management Councils	0648-AJ82
480	Halibut Donation Program	0648-AJ87
481	FMP Amendment 53 to BSAI Groundfish to Allocate Shortraker and Rougheye Rockfish between Gear Types	0648-AJ99
482	Proposed Rule on Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Power Plant Operations at Seabrook, New Hampshire	0648-AK00
483	Amendments to Fishery Management Plans To Implement Sustainable Fisheries Act Amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Act	0648-AK03
484	Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	0648-AK05
485	Regulatory Amendment To Implement Rolling Closures During the Sablefish Fishery in the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK10
486	Adjustment of Management Program for Pelagic Species Fisheries in the Western Pacific	0648-AK11
487	FMP Amendments for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands and for the Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK12
488	Regulatory Amendment To Specify Minimal Vessel Ownership Requirements for the Hired Skipper Provision in the IFQ Fisheries	0648-AK20
489	Adjustment of the Management Program for Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries in the Western Pacific	0648-AK21
490	Adjustment of the Management Program for Precious Corals Fisheries in the Western Pacific	0648-AK23
491	Regulatory Amendment To Implement 1998 Nontrawl Sablefish Harvest Regime	0648-AK27
492	Regulatory Amendment To Adjust Management Measures Under the Fishery Management Plan for Reef Fish Species of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP) for the 1998 Fishing Season	0648-AK28
493	Additional Measures of Amendment 2 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the South Atlantic—Procedures for Testing and Certification of Bycatch Reduction Devices (BRDS)	0648-AK29
494	Amendment 16 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AK31
495	Regulatory Amendment for a Bycatch Reduction Device (BRD) Testing and Certification Protocol Under Amendment 9 to the FMP for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AK32
496	Options for 1997 Rulemaking for Banning the Sale of Undersized Atlantic Swordfish	0648-AK39
497	A Regulatory Amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for Golden Crab Fishery of the Southern Atlantic States	0648-AK43
498	Amendment 6 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Stone Crab Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AK48
499	List of Gear and Fisheries Under Jurisdiction of Each Fishery Management Council or the Secretary of Commerce for Highly Migratory Species	0648-AK49
500	Regulatory amendment to amend portions of the Individual Fishing Quota Program Regulations	0648-AK50
501	Implementation of Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Precious Corals Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region	0648-AK60
502	Modification of Harvest Guideline System for Hawaiian Lobster Fishery	0648-AK61
503	Seasonal Apportionments of Pollock Total Allowable Catch in the Western and Central Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK71
504	Amendment 52 to the FMP for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands area and Amendment 52 to the FMP for the Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK73
505	Fishing Capacity Reduction Program	0648-AK76
506	1998 Recreational fishery measures for Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass	0648-AK78
507	Rule to Implement a Fishery Management Plan for the Spiny Dogfish Fishery	0648-AK79
508	Rule to Implement Amendment 7 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries	0648-AK80
509	Secretarial Amendment to Standardize Fishing Vessel Transfer, Replacement, and Upgrade Regulations in the Northeast Region Fishery Management Plans	0648-AK81
510	Regulatory Amendment to Initiate Control for the Harvest of Bottomfish in the Exclusive Economic Zone Around the Main Hawaiian Islands	0648-AK82
511	Amendment 13 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan	0648-AK83
512	Revise exempted fishing regulations to specify compensatory fishing under exempted fishing	0648-AK84
513	Establish Rules to Compensate Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishermen for Assistance in Resources Assessments	0648-AK86
514	Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Annual Quota Specifications and Effort Controls	0648-AK87
515	Atlantic Billfish Size Limits and Tournament Notification Requirements	0648-AK88
516	Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic	0648-AK89

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Proposed Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
517	VMS Pilot Program for Atlantic Swordfish	0648-AK90
518	Research and Monitoring Plan to Support the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Species	0648-AK92
519	Amendment 17 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AK96
520	Proposed Rule to Adjust the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper TAC and Associated Management Measures Under the Framework Procedure of the FMP for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AK97
521	Regulatory Amendment - Establish 10 SMZs in Federal waters off SC and to Prohibit Use of Powerheads in the Ft. Pierce, FL offshore SMZ in the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the S. Atlantic Region	0648-AL00
522	Compensation of private vessels for their conduct of resource assessments through exempted fishing	0648-AL04
523	Foreign Nations' Marine Mammal Program Amendments	0648-AG05
524	Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals: Tuna Purse Seine Vessel Observer Expenses	0648-AG35
525	Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals; Taking of Marine Mammals Under the ATA Permit After February 28, 1994	0648-AG36
526	Designated Critical Habitat; Pacific Steelhead	0648-AG49
527	Proposed Rule To Provide Regulations for Permits for Capture, Transport, Import and Export of Protected Species for Public Display, and for Maintaining a Captive Marine Mammal Inventory	0648-AH26
528	Proposed Rule Governing the Issuance of Permits for Marine Mammal Photography	0648-AH31
529	Amend Regulations Governing the Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals	0648-AH83
530	Implementation of 1997 MMPA Amendments Affecting Yellowfin Tuna Purse Seine Fishing in the Eastern Tropical Pacific	0648-AI85
531	Endangered and Threatened Species; Status of Chinook Salmon in Washington, Idaho, Oregon and California	0648-AK02
532	Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Activities at Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA	0648-AK42
533	List of Fisheries for 1999	0648-AK95
534	Revision of Federal Consistency Regulations Under the Coastal Zone Management Act	0648-AD83
535	Revision of Overflight Regulations	0648-AI91
536	Notice of Proposed Administrative Changes to the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program	0648-AK62
537	Interagency Consultation for the National Marine Sanctuary Program	0648-AL06

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
538	Secretarial Amendment to the FMP for Atlantic Swordfish	0648-AE09
539	Financial Disclosure of Fishery Management Council Nominees, Members, and Executive Directors	0648-AG16
540	Amendment 8 to the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic (FMP)	0648-AG25
541	Amendment 8 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic	0648-AG27
542	Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AH52
543	Amendment 39 to the FMP for Groundfish Fishery of BSAI, Amendment 41 to the FMP for Groundfish of the GOA and Amendment 5 to the FMP for Commercial King & Tanner Crab Fisheries of the BSAI	0648-AH65
544	Plan Amendment to FMP for Sharks of the Atlantic Ocean That Would Limit Entry	0648-AH78
545	Consolidation of Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Regulations	0648-AI28
546	Regulatory Amendment To Establish Total Allowable Catch Limits for the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Groups of King and Spanish Mackerel for the 1997-98 Fishing Year	0648-AJ12
547	Amendment 11 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico - Resubmitted Measure	0648-AJ16
548	Regulatory Amendment to Restrict Frequency of Limited Entry Permit Transfers and Require the Sorting of Catch by Species and the Retention of Fish Tickets	0648-AJ20
549	Consolidation of the Rules for Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic and Stone Crab Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AJ28
550	Guidelines for the Description, Identification, Conservation, and Enhancement of Essential Fish Habitat	0648-AJ30
551	Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions; National Standards Guidelines	0648-AJ58
552	Proposed Rule To Implement Observer Provisions Required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act as Amended October 11, 1996	0648-AJ76
553	Final Definition of the Zero Mortality Rate Goal	0648-AJ84
554	Endangered and Threatened Species: Take of Threatened Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) Coho Salmon	0648-AJ91
555	Antarctic Marine Living Resources Convention Act of 1984; Conservation and Management Measures	0648-AJ94

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Final Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
556	Appointment of Members to the Regional Fishery Management Councils	0648-AJ95
557	Final Rule To Implement Framework Adjustment 24 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Northeast Multispecies Fishery	0648-AJ96
558	Regulatory Amendment To Allow Retention of Undersized Halibut in CDQ Fishery	0648-AK06
559	Adjustment of Management Program for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Crustacean Fisheries	0648-AK22
560	Northern Anchovy Fishery; Quotas for the 1998-99 Fishing Year (Annual Specifications)	0648-AK24
561	1998-1999 Management Measures for Commercial, Recreational, and Treaty Indian Salmon Fisheries Off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California	0648-AK25
562	Endangered and Threatened Species; Regulations Consolidation	0648-AK34
563	Final Rule To Modify the Regulations Implementing the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan	0648-AK35
564	Regulatory Amendment to Revise the Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Groundfish Fisheries of the EEZ Off of Alaska for 1998	0648-AK36
565	Proposed Highly Migratory Species Process	0648-AK40
566	Endangered and Threatened Species: Proposed Threatened Status and Designated Critical Habitat for West Coast Sockeye Salmon	0648-AK52
567	Endangered and Threatened Species: Proposed Endangered Status and Designated Critical Habitat for Coastwide Chum Salmon	0648-AK53
568	Take of Threatened Central California Coast, South Central California Coast, and Snake River Basin ESUs of Steelhead Salmon Under the ESA	0648-AK54
569	Extension for 6 Years of a Moratorium on Fishing in Seamount Groundfish Fishery of Western Pacific Region to Promote Rebuilding of Stocks	0648-AK59
570	Atlantic Bluefin Tuna (ABT) Fishery	0648-AK63
571	Final Rule to Implement Framework Adjustment 25 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Northeast Multispecies Fishery for Fishing Year 1998	0648-AK77
572	1998 Harvest Guideline for Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Lobster Fishing	0648-AK85
573	Interim Final Rule to Adjust the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper TAC and Associated Management Measures in the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AK98
574	Interim Final Rule to Expand the Oculina HAPC by an Additional 2 Miles on All Sides to Include Existing HAPC Restrictions in the Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region	0648-AK99
575	IFR to Implement March-April Bag Limit and Commercial Catch Restrictions for Red Porgy, Gag, Black Grouper, and Greater Amberjack for the Snapper-Grouper-Fishery of the S. Atlantic	0648-AL01
576	Interim Final Rule to Adjust the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Total Allowable Catch and Associated Management Measures	0648-AL03
577	Interim Final Rule for the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery	0648-AK68
578	Civil Procedures	0648-AF96
579	Performance Standards for Tuna Vessel Operators	0648-AD03
580	Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals; Dolphin Mortality Limits During Purse Seine Sets on Marine Mammals in the Eastern Tropical Pacific	0648-AF07
581	Take of Marine Mammals by the U.S. Navy Incidental to Military Activities in the South Atlantic of the United States	0648-AG55
582	Designated Critical Habitat; Central California Coast and Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Salmon	0648-AG56
583	Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals: Proposed Rule Prohibiting U.S. Citizens From Encircling Marine Mammals During Tuna Fishing Operations	0648-AH04
584	Final Rule To Establish Guidelines for Nonlethally Detering Marine Mammals From Endangering Personal Safety or Damaging Public or Private Property	0648-AH19
585	General Authorization for Scientific Research Involving Level B Harassment	0648-AH20
586	North Atlantic Right Whale Protection; Interim Final Rule	0648-AH47
587	Designated Critical Habitat; Green and Hawksbill Sea Turtle	0648-AH88
588	Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Take Reduction Plan Regulations and Emergency Regulations	0648-AI84
589	Joint Draft Policy for Safe Harbor and Candidate Species Conservation (CSC) Agreements	0648-AJ54
590	Definition of Harm Under the ESA	0648-AK55
591	Sea Turtle Conservation; Shrimp Trawling Requirements	0648-AK66
592	Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary	0648-AE41
593	Allowance of Small-Scale Non-Intrusive Jade Collecting in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	0648-AI06
594	Prohibiting Anchoring by Vessels 50 Meters or Greater in Length on Tortugas Bank Within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary	0648-AK45
595	Licensing of Private Commercial Remote-Sensing Satellite Systems	0648-AC64

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Final Rule Stage (Continued)

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
596	Policies and Procedures Regarding Use of the NOAA-Based Data Collection Systems	0648-AK04

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
597	Regulatory Amendment To Implement Permit, Reporting, and Recordkeeping Requirements for Processing Vessels Over 125 Feet and Their Catcher Vessels: Pacific Coast Groundfish	0648-AE01
598	General Provisions for Domestic Fisheries—Standard Definitions	0648-AG46
599	Regulatory Amendment To Impose Restrictions on Fishing Black Rockfish Off Oregon	0648-AG81
600	Amendment 7 to the Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster	0648-AH41
601	Regulatory Amendment To Prevent Overfishing and Rebuild Stocks	0648-AJ46
602	Regulatory Amendment To Implement Bycatch Reduction Measures	0648-AJ47
603	Amendments to the BSAI and GOA Fishery Management Plans To Implement a Data Collection Program for Recreational, Charter, and Commercial Fishing	0648-AJ49
604	Regulatory Amendment To Revise Definitions	0648-AJ50
605	Withdrawal of the Fishery Management Plan for the American Lobster Fishery	0648-AJ73
606	Implementation of Data Collection and Reporting Requirements to the Fishery Management Plan for the American Lobster Fishery	0648-AJ75
607	Implement a Framework to the FMP for the Northeast Multispecies Fisheries To Protect Winter Flounder	0648-AJ92
608	Rulemaking To Establish the North Pacific Loan Program	0648-AK07
609	Regulatory Amendment To Develop a C. bairdi Vessel Incentive Program	0648-AK08
610	Regulatory Amendment To Allocate Pacific Halibut to the Halibut Subsistence Fishery	0648-AK16
611	Regulatory Amendment To Allocate Pacific Halibut to the Charter Boat Fleet	0648-AK17
612	Regulatory Amendment To Implement Observer Requirements for Processing Vessels Over 125 Feet: Pacific Coast Groundfish	0648-AK26
613	Regulatory Amendment to Establish the Application Period for the License Limitation Program	0648-AK69
614	Amendment 54 to the FMP for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Area and Amendment 54 to the FMP for Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK70
615	Amendment 53 to the FMP for the Groundfish of the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK72
616	Regulatory Amendment to Close an Area in the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK74
617	Regulatory Amendment to Redefine an Individual Fishing Quota Definition	0648-AK75
618	Observer Funding Policy	0648-AL08
619	Sea Turtle Monitoring and Conservation Measures for Nonshrimp Fisheries	0648-AE54
620	Taking and Importing of Marine Mammals; "Dolphin-Safe" Tuna Labeling	0648-AF08
621	Proposed Rule To Require Certain Fish From Mexico To Retain Heads and Tails Intact in Order To Protect the Endangered Totoaba	0648-AF32
622	Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Fisheries-Related Research	0648-AF50
623	Direct Take of Threatened Salmon by Native Americans	0648-AG15
624	Proposed Rule To Authorize Lethal Takings of Marine Mammals by State Authorities	0648-AG79
625	Final Rule To Amend Marine Mammal Regulations To Authorize Incidental Takings of Marine Mammals by Harassment as Authorized by Public Law 103-238	0648-AG80
626	Shrimp Vessel Registration Requirement	0648-AH87
627	North Atlantic Right Whale Protection	0648-AK41
628	Endangered and Threatened Species: Proposed Rule governing take of West Coast Steelhead	0648-AK94
629	Operations of Motorized Personal Watercraft in the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	0648-AK01
630	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary—Minor Boundary Revision	0648-AL07
631	Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary—Addition of Definition for Seabirds	0648-AL09
632	Regional Marine Research Program	0648-AF20
633	NOAA Climate and Global Change Program—Proposal Submission Guidelines	0648-AG51
634	National Undersea Research Program Funding Regulations	0648-AH90

DOC

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
635	Regulatory Amendment To Establish a Certification Program for At-Sea Scales	0648-AG32
636	Regulatory Amendment To Facilitate Monitoring and Enforcement in the Pacific Coast Groundfish Fishery	0648-AH21
637	FMP Amendment 36 for the Groundfish Fishery of the BSAI and FMP Amendment 39 for the Groundfish of the GOA	0648-AH67
638	Regulatory Amendment to Limited Access Management of Federal Fisheries In and Off of Alaska	0648-AJ00
639	Amendment 15 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	0648-AJ14
640	Amendment 49 to the FMP for the Groundfish Fishery of the BSAI	0648-AJ36
641	Amendment 40 to the FMP for the Groundfish Fishery of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands	0648-AJ45
642	Atlantic Swordfish Fishery; Quotas	0648-AJ63
643	Amendment 49 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Groundfish Fishery of the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AJ71
644	Final Rule To Implement Framework Adjustment 18 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Northeast Multispecies Fishery	0648-AJ79
645	List of Fisheries for 1998	0648-AJ85
646	Interim Final Rule To Increase Minimum Size Limit for Vermillion Snapper in Federal Waters of Gulf of Mexico	0648-AJ89
647	Regulatory Amendment To Change the Scallop Season Opening Date	0648-AJ98
648	Regulatory Amendment To Revise Specified Maximum Retainable Bycatch Percentages	0648-AK09
649	FMP Amendment 46 for the Groundfish Fishery of the Gulf of Alaska	0648-AK13
650	Amendment 34 to the Groundfish of the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands	0648-AK14
651	Rulemaking To Extend the Interim Observer Program Through 1998	0648-AK15
652	Rulemaking To Revise the Halibut Catch Share Plan Amendment for 1998	0648-AK18
653	Regulatory Amendment To Revise "Surviving Spouse" Language	0648-AK19
654	Rulemaking To Clarify a Provision in the Observer Program CGL Insurance Coverage Requirements	0648-AK30
655	Regulations Governing the Incidental Taking of Ringed Seals During Seismic Operations During Winter in the U.S. Beaufort Sea	0648-AK33
656	Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries	0648-AK37
657	Regulatory Amendment to Implement Seabird Avoidance Measures in the Pacific Halibut Fishery Off of Alaska	0648-AK38
658	1998 Specifications for Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass	0648-AK44
659	Endangered Fish or Wildlife; Special Prohibitions; North Atlantic Right Whale Protection	0648-AK46
660	Final 1998 Initial Specifications for Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries	0648-AK47
661	Control Date for the Coastal Pelagics Fishery; Northern Anchovy	0648-AK51
662	Control Date for Longline Fishery in American Samoa	0648-AK56
663	Proposed Changes to Catch Sharing Plan for Harvest of Pacific Halibut Off Washington, Oregon, and California and Proposed Sport Fishery Management Measures to Implement Plan	0648-AK57
664	Pacific Halibut Fisheries: Annual Management Measures and Approval of Catch Sharing Plans	0648-AK58
665	Designated Critical Habitat; Johnson's Seagrass	0648-AF79
666	General Provisions; Endangered Fish or Wildlife; Threatened Fish and Wildlife; Sea Turtle Conservation Measures (Section 9 Protection)	0648-AG38
667	Designated Critical Habitat; Atlantic Salmon	0648-AG50
668	Designated Critical Habitat; Umpqua River Cutthroat Trout	0648-AG58
669	Proposed Designation of Critical Habitat for Puget Sound Salmon Stocks	0648-AH11
670	Amendment 10 to the Summer Flounder Fishery Management Plan	0648-AJ55

National Telecommunications and Information Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
671	Improvement of Technical Management of Internet Names and Addresses	0660-AA11

Patent and Trademark Office—Prerule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
672	1998 Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure	0651-AA94

DOC

Patent and Trademark Office—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
673	Miscellaneous Changes to TTAB Rules	0651-AA87
674	Changes Implementing International Acceptable Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Listings	0651-AA88
675	Revision of Patent and Trademark Fees for Fiscal Year 1999	0651-AA96
676	Changes to Continued Prosecution Application Practices	0651-AA97

Patent and Trademark Office—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
677	Patent Application Electronic Submission Rules	0651-AA50
678	Changes To Implement 18-Month Publication of Patent Applications	0651-AA75
679	Rules of Practice in Patent Cases; Reexamination Proceedings	0651-AA79
680	Limitations in Patent Claims	0651-AA91
681	Requirements for Registration to Practice Before the PTO in Patent Cases	0651-AA93
682	Technical Requirements for Registration To Practice Before the PTO in Patent Cases	0651-AA95

Patent and Trademark Office—Completed Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
683	Changes To Patent Practice and Procedure	0651-AA80

Technology Administration—Final Rule Stage

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
684	Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts, and Cooperative Agreements	0692-AA14
685	Acquisition and Protection of Foreign Rights in Inventions	0692-AA15

Technology Administration—Long-Term Actions

Sequence Number	Title	Regulation Identifier Number
686	Promotion of Private Sector Industrial Technology Partnerships	0692-AA13
687	Licensing of Government-Owned Inventions	0692-AA17

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Office of the Secretary (OS)
Proposed Rule Stage
390. NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES RECEIVING OR BENEFITING FROM FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Priority: Other Significant**Legal Authority:** PL 92-318, sec 901 and 902**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 8a**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** The Department of Commerce plans to join with the Department of

Justice and other agencies in a Governmentwide common rule to enforce title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The rule will provide guidelines for enforcing nondiscrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving or benefiting from Federal financial assistance.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kimberly Walton, Acting Director, Office of Civil Rights, Department of Commerce, Office of the Secretary, Room 6010, Washington, DC 20230

Phone: 202 482-5691

RIN: 0690-AA28
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Office of the Secretary (OS)
Long-Term Actions
391. STANDARDS OF ETHICAL CONDUCT—DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SUPPLEMENTAL REGULATIONS
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** Not yet determined**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Lucy Chang

Phone: 202 482-8041

RIN: 0690-AA23
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Office of the Secretary (OS)
Completed Actions
392. GUIDELINES FOR EMPOWERMENT CONTRACTING
Priority: Economically Significant. Major under 5 USC 801.**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 3**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Transferred to the Small Business Administration	02/20/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Procurement: This is a procurement-related action for which there is no statutory requirement. There is no paperwork burden associated with this action.

Agency Contact: Joe Levine
Phone: 202 482-1071

RIN: 0690-AA25
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)
Proposed Rule Stage
393. CHANGE IN REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR BE-15, ANNUAL SURVEY OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 22 USC 3101 to 3108, Intl Investment & Trade in Svs Survey Act**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 806**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action will amend existing rule 15 CFR 806.15 to bring reporting on the BE-15, Annual Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the

United States, into conformity with the proposed BE-12, Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct Investment in the United States - 1997. The proposed changes will raise the threshold for reporting on the BE-15(LF) long form to \$100 million from \$50 million and on the BE-15(SF) short form to \$30 million from \$10 million.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: R. David Belli, Chief, International Investment Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, (BE-50), Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 606-9800
Fax: 202 606-5318
Email: david.belli@bea.doc.gov

RIN: 0691-AA32

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Final Rule Stage

**394. DIRECT INVESTMENT SURVEYS:
RAISING EXEMPTION LEVEL FOR
TWO SURVEYS OF FOREIGN DIRECT
INVESTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 22 USC 3101 to 3108
Intl Investment and Trade in Svs
Survey Act

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 806

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action will amend 15
CFR 806.15 by raising the exemption
level for reporting in two surveys of
foreign direct investment in the UnitedStates: raise the exemption level for
Forms BE-605 and BE-605 Bank to \$30
million from \$20 million; and raise the
exemption level for Forms BE-13 and
BE-14 to \$3 million from \$1 million.The purpose of these changes is to
bring the surveys into conformity with
the proposed design of the BE-12,
Benchmark Survey of Foreign Direct
Investment in the United States-1997.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/10/97	62 FR 65043
NPRM Comment Period End	01/26/98	

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: R. David Belli, Chief,
International Investment Division,
Department of Commerce, Bureau of
Economic Analysis, Washington, DC
20230
Phone: 202 606-9800
Fax: 202 606-5318

RIN: 0691-AA31

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Completed Actions

**395. ANNUAL SURVEY OF
ROYALTIES, LICENSE FEES, AND
OTHER RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR INTANGIBLE RIGHTS BETWEEN
U.S. AND UNAFFILIATED FOREIGN
PERSONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 801

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/31/97	62 FR 68161
Final Action Effective	01/30/98	62 FR 68162

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: R. David Belli
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Email: david.belli@bea.doc.gov

RIN: 0691-AA28

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/23/98	63 FR 3459
Final Action Effective	02/23/98	63 FR 3460

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: R. David Belli
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RIN: 0691-AA29

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Email: david.belli@bea.doc.gov

RIN: 0691-AA30

**398. CHANGE IN REPORTING
REQUIREMENTS FOR BE-605,
TRANSACTIONS OF U.S. AFFILIATE,
EXCEPT A U.S. BANKING AFFILIATE,
WITH FOREIGN PARENT AND BE-605
BANK, TRANSACTIONS OF U.S.
BANKING AFFILIATE**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 806

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn - Combined With RIN 0691-AA31	12/10/97	62 FR 65043

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: R. David Belli
Phone: 202 606-9800
Fax: 202 606-3518
Email: david.belli@bea.doc.gov

RIN: 0691-AA33

**396. BENCHMARK SURVEY OF
FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN
THE UNITED STATES—1997**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 806

**397. ANNUAL SURVEY OF SELECTED
SERVICES TRANSACTIONS WITH
UNAFFILIATED FOREIGN PERSONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 801

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/31/97	62 FR 68163
Final Action Effective	01/30/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State,
Local

Agency Contact: R. David Belli

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Bureau of the Census (CENSUS)
Proposed Rule Stage
399. CHANGES TO THE FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICAL REGULATIONS (FTSR) TO CONFORM REQUIREMENTS AND WORDING TO THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AUTOMATED EXPORT SYSTEM (AES)
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 13 USC 301 to 307**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 30.60**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Census Bureau proposes to amend the FTSR to conform requirements and language to agree with proposed changes in the U.S. Customs Service regulations implementing and supporting operation of the AES. The AES will provide the exporting community with a single automated system throughout which the exporting community can ultimately provide the trade information required by the U.S. Government.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** Federal

Additional Information: The title 13 U.S.C. legislation governing export statistical collection requires minor amendments to clarify U.S. Customs Service authority necessary to collect the required information via the AES. Draft legislation, sponsored by the Customs Service, is now at the Commerce Department for initial review. This legislation must be enacted before 15 CFR can be amended.

Agency Contact: Frank Korpusik, Regulations Staff, Foreign Trade Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, FB-3, Room 3148, Washington, DC 20233
 Phone: 301 457-2238
 Fax: 301 457-3765

RIN: 0607-AA19
400. CHANGES TO THE FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICAL REGULATIONS (FTSR) TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF EXPORTER
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 13 USC 301 to 307**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 30.4; 15 CFR 30.7**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Census Bureau proposes to amend the FTSR definition of exporter for purposes of clarifying responsibility to report trade information. The FTSR also will be amended to reinforce the requirement for filing a power of attorney when an agent acts for an exporter specifying the essential provisions to be included with additional requirements if the exporter does not have a permanent U.S. residence.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Frank Korpusik, Regulations Staff, Foreign Trade Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, FB3, Room 3148, Washington, DC 20233
 Phone: 301 457-2238
 Fax: 301 457-3765

RIN: 0607-AA20
401. CHANGES TO THE FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICAL REGULATIONS (FTSR) REQUIRING A DESIGNATOR WHEN THE EXPORT SHIPMENT IS A FOREIGN MILITARY SALE
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 13 USC 301 to 307**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR subpart A, 30.7**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Census Bureau proposes to amend the FTSR to require exporters or their designated agents to provide a foreign military sales indicator when merchandise is exported from the United States under the Department of Defense (DOD) Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Program. The indicator would be inserted in the area on the SED currently reserved for the "D"

(Domestic) or "F" (Foreign) Code. This action is taken to assist the Bureau of Economic Analysis in collecting actual FMS value data. Currently this information is derived from crude estimates provided by DOD.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Frank Korpusik, Regulations Staff, Foreign Trade Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, FB3, Room 3148, Washington, DC 20233
 Phone: 301 457-2238
 Fax: 301 457-3765

RIN: 0607-AA22
402. SPECIAL SERVICES AND STUDIES BY THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS; GENERAL
Priority: Info./Admin./Other**Legal Authority:** 15 USC 1526; 13 USC 8**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 50.1(d)**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Chapter 1, part 50.1(d) should be amended to read as follows: If a search is unsuccessful and additional information for a further search is requested by the Bureau, such information must be received within 90 days of the request or the case will be considered closed. Additional information received after 90 days must be accompanied by a new fee and will be considered a new request.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	
Final Action	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Stanley M. Domzalski, Assistant Division Chief (Services), Data Preparation Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1201 East 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132

DOC—CENSUS

Proposed Rule Stage

Phone: 812 218-3579
Fax: 812 218-3293
RIN: 0607-AA24

403. FURNISHING PERSONAL CENSUS DATA FROM CENSUS OF POPULATION SCHEDULES; GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 13 USC 8

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 80.1(c)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Chapter 1, part 80.1(c): Change the address from Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 to Jeffersonville, Indiana 47131.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	
Final Action	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stanley M. Domzalski, Assistant Division Chief (Services), Data Preparation Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1201 East 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132
Phone: 812 218-3579
Fax: 812 218-3293
RIN: 0607-AA25

404. FURNISHING PERSONAL CENSUS DATA FROM CENSUS OF POPULATION SCHEDULES; GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 13 USC 8

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 80.1(g)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Chapter 1, part 80.1(g): The language may be clarified by changing it to read: Census information will not be furnished to another person unless the person to whom the information relates authorizes such release in the space provided on the Form BC-600.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	
Final Action	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stanley M. Domzalski, Assistant Division Chief (Services), Data Preparation Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1201 East 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132
Phone: 812 218-3579
Fax: 812 218-3293
RIN: 0607-AA26

405. SPECIAL SERVICES AND STUDIES BY THE BUREAU OF THE CENSUS; FEE STRUCTURE FOR AGE SEARCH AND CITIZENSHIP INFORMATION

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 15 USC 1526; 13 USC 8

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 50.5

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Chapter 1, part 50.5: the note following the chart of the fee structure can be eliminated since we have not had a fee increase since February 1993.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	
Final Action	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stanley M. Domzalski, Assistant Division Chief (Services), Data Preparation Division, Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, 1201 East 10th Street, Jeffersonville, IN 47132
Phone: 812 218-3579
Fax: 812 218-3293
RIN: 0607-AA27

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Completed Actions

Bureau of the Census (CENSUS)

406. CUTOFF DATES FOR RECOGNITION OF BOUNDARY CHANGES FOR THE 2000 DECENNIAL CENSUS OF POPULATION AND HOUSING

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 70.1 to 70.3

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	03/03/98	63 FR 10303
Final Action Effective	03/03/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joel L. Morrison
Phone: 301 457-1132
Fax: 301 457-4710

RIN: 0607-AA18

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Final Rule Stage

Economic Development Administration (EDA)

407. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE—EXCESS CAPACITY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 3211; 43 USC 3212

CFR Citation: 13 CFR 316

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: EDA intends to clarify its rule regarding studies, reports, and exemptions necessary pursuant to its statutory requirement that financial

assistance is not extended to any project when the result would be to increase the production of goods, materials, or commodities, or the availability of services or facilities in excess of the demand for such goods or services.

DOC—EDA

Final Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Sectors Affected: Multiple

Agency Contact: Edward M. Levin, Chief Counsel, Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, 14th & Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-4687

Fax: 202 482-5671
Email: elevin@doc.gov

RIN: 0610-AA55

408. • SIMPLIFICATION AND STREAMLINING OF REGULATIONS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 42 USC 3121 et seq

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Clarification of and corrections to various sections of EDA's recently revised body of regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Edward M. Levin, Chief Counsel, Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230

Phone: 202 482-4687

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Email: elevin@doc.gov

RIN: 0610-AA58

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Long-Term Actions

Economic Development Administration (EDA)

409. REGULATIONS CONTINGENT ON THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 1998

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Edward M. Levin

Phone: 202 482-4687

Fax: 202 482-5671

Email: elevin@doc.gov

RIN: 0610-AA56

410. • TRADE ACT—ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE FOR COMMUNITIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: Contingent on Passage of Presidential Community Trade Initiative

CFR Citation: 13 CFR 315

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: If a proposed Presidential Initiative in trade affecting

communities is effectuated, EDA would need to promulgate regulations to implement the President's initiative.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal

Agency Contact: Edward M. Levin, Chief Counsel, Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230

Phone: 202 482-4687

Fax: 202 482-5671

RIN: 0610-AA57

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Final Rule Stage

General Administration (ADMIN)

411. UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENT FOR GRANTS AND AGREEMENTS WITH INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER NONPROFITS AND COMMERCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 14

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: On November 29, 1993, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-110, "Uniform

Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements, with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-Profit Organizations" was published in the Federal Register (58 FR 62992). In the published revised circular, OMB specified as "required action" that Federal agencies responsible for awarding and administering grants and other agreements to recipients described therein, shall adopt the language of the Circular unless other provisions are required by Federal Statute or exceptions or deviations are approved

by OMB. This interim final rule adopts the provisions of the Circular and its language to the maximum extent feasible with minor language changes made to make the language apply specifically to the DOC and its operating units.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

DOC—ADMIN

Final Rule Stage

Agency Contact: John J. Phelan III,
Director, Office of Executive Assistance
Management, Department of Commerce,

Office of Administration, 14th Street &
Constitution Avenue NW., Washington,
DC 20230

Phone: 202 482-4115

RIN: 0605-AA09

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Completed Actions

General Administration (ADMIN)

412. ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRANTEES TO REFLECT SINGLE AUDIT ACT AMENDMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 24

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/29/97	62 FR 45937
Final Action Effective	09/27/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State,
Local

Agency Contact: John J. Phelan III
Phone: 202 482-4115

RIN: 0605-AA11

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Final Rule Stage

International Trade Administration (ITA)

413. ANTIDUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING DUTY PROCEEDINGS; ADMINISTRATIVE PROTECTIVE ORDER PROCEDURES AND PROCEDURES FOR IMPOSING SANCTIONS FOR VIOLATION OF A PROTECTIVE ORDER

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing
Government effort. It will revise text in
the CFR to reduce burden or
duplication, or streamline
requirements.

Legal Authority: 5 USC 301; 19 USC
1677f

CFR Citation: 19 CFR 351; 19 CFR 354

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Department needs to
enhance the administrative efficiency of
its investigations of alleged violations
of administrative protective orders
(APOs) and of the process for imposing
sanctions for violations, as well as the
fairness of the procedures to all
concerned parties. In addition, the
Department needs to simplify and
streamline the APO administrative
process and reduce the administrative
burdens on the ITA and trade
practitioners. The Department is
considering a variety of amendments to
its existing regulations to achieve these
goals. With respect to APO violations
and sanctions, the Department is
considering (1) expedited procedures
for certain APO violations that are
uncontested, inadvertent, and technical;
(2) providing for warnings to be issued
where a finding of a violation would
lead to unjustifiably harsh sanctions;

(3) where warranted, permitting the
agency to dismiss a charge without
prejudice without the appointment or
approval of an administrative law
judge; (4) providing for a sunset
provision that is fairer to past violators
and that eases the administrative
burden; and (5) permitting a private
reprimand as a sanction without
requiring as a precondition that parties
engage in settlement discussions. The
Department expects to benefit from
gains in administrative efficiency and
fairness without incurring any
additional costs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/08/96	61 FR 4826
NPRM Comment Period End	03/11/96	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Joan MacKenzie,
Senior Attorney, Department of
Commerce, International Trade
Administration, Room H4621, 14th
Street & Constitution Avenue NW.,
Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-1310

RIN: 0625-AA43

414. ANTIDUMPING DUTIES; COUNTERVAILING DUTIES

Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This
rulemaking is part of the Reinventing
Government effort. It will revise text in
the CFR to reduce burden or

duplication, or streamline
requirements.

Legal Authority: 19 USC 1671 et seq;
19 USC 1673 et seq; 19 USC 1303

CFR Citation: 19 CFR 351; 19 CFR 353;
19 CFR 355

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory,
January 1, 1996.

Section 103(b) of the Uruguay Round
Agreements Act establishes January 1,
1996, as the deadline for interim final
regulations.

Abstract: Revisions of the antidumping
and countervailing duty regulations are
necessary due to enactment of
legislation implementing the results of
the Uruguay Round multilateral trade
negotiations. Clarifying the
methodologies and procedures used in
administering the antidumping and
countervailing duty laws will enhance
the efficiency and fairness of these laws
at little, if any, additional cost. Final
antidumping regulations were issued
on May 19, 1997. Proposed
countervailing duty regulations were
issued on February 26, 1997.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	01/03/95	60 FR 80
ANPRM Comment Period End	02/24/95	
Interim Final Rule	05/11/95	60 FR 25130
Interim Final Rule Effective	05/11/95	
NPRM	02/27/96	61 FR 7308
NPRM Comment Period End	06/17/96	
NPRM for Countervailing Duty Regulations	02/26/97	62 FR 8818

DOC—ITA

Final Rule Stage

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Rule for Antidumping Regulations	05/19/97	62 FR 27296
Final Action	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Richard N. Moreland, Director, Office of Antidumping Investigations, Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Room 3093, 14th Street & Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-1768

RIN: 0625-AA45

415. • PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCTING FIVE-YEAR (SUNSET) REVIEWS OF ANTIDUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING DUTY ORDERS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 19 USC 1671 et seq; 19 USC 1673 et seq; 19 USC 1303

CFR Citation: 19 CFR 351

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: On May 19, 1997 (62 FR 27296), the Department of Commerce (the Department) published final rules on, inter alia, procedures for conducting antidumping and countervailing duty proceedings to conform the Department's existing regulations to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA). Although these regulations contain provisions on the conduct of sunset reviews, the Department is planning to amend the regulations to provide more guidance on the procedures for conducting sunset reviews. Specifically, the Department proposes to amend the

procedural regulations for participation in, and conduct of, sunset reviews to add two definitions to provide shorthand expressions for 120-day and 240-day sunset reviews; provide deadlines for certain submissions; clarify the information to be provided by parties participating in a sunset review; clarify when the Department will conduct a 120-day or a 240-day sunset review, and provide time limits for actions to be taken by the Department.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stacy Ettinger, Attorney, Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Room 3828, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-4618

RIN: 0625-AA51

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC) International Trade Administration (ITA)

Long-Term Actions

416. • EXPORT TRADE CERTIFICATES OF REVIEW (15 CFR 325)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 15 USC 4011 to 4021

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 325

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The International Trade Administration's Office of Export Trading Company Affairs (OETCA) needs to update the regulations used to administer title III of the Export

Trading Company Act (15 USC 4011 to 4021). The regulations, which have not been modified since their issuance in 1985, will be revised to address the practical lessons learned during the thirteen years of their administration, including the adoption of a professional code of conduct for attorneys and other licensed professionals who represent clients in title III matters.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Morton Schnabel, Acting Director, Office of Export Trading Company Affairs, Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Room 1800A, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-5131
Fax: 202 482-1790

RIN: 0625-AA52

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC) International Trade Administration (ITA)

Completed Actions

417. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS OF THE FOREIGN TRADE ZONES BOARD

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 400

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/15/97	62 FR 53534
Final Action Effective	10/15/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: John J. DaPonte, Jr.
Phone: 202 482-2862

RIN: 0625-AA49

418. • LIMIT ON DUTY-FREE INSULAR WATCHES IN CALENDAR YEAR 1998

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 48 USC 1681, Note; 19 USC 1202, Note; PL 103-165

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 303

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action amends the ITA regulations, which govern duty-exemption allocations and duty-refund entitlements for watch producers in the United States' insular possessions (the Virgin Islands, Guam and American Samoa) and the Northern Mariana Islands. The amendments establish the total quantity and respective territorial shares of insular watches and watch movements which are allowed to enter

DOC—ITA

Completed Actions

the United States free of duty during calendar year 1998 and make a minor adjustment to the verification of shipments.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/05/97	62 FR 59829

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	12/05/97	
Final Action	02/05/98	63 FR 5887
Final Action Effective	03/09/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Faye Robinson, Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration, Room 4211, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-3526

RIN: 0625-AA50

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Bureau of Export Administration (BXA)

Final Rule Stage

419. DEFENSE PRIORITIES AND ALLOCATIONS SYSTEM (DPAS)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 50 USC app 2061 et seq; 50 USC app 468; EO 12656; EO 12742; EO 12919

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Defense Priorities and Allocations System (DPAS) implements the priorities and allocations authority of title I of the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended, and the priorities authority of section 18 of the Selective Service Act of 1948. The DPAS was published as a final rule on July 30, 1984. Based on the findings and recommendations of an interagency sponsored study concerning the controlled materials program, and comments from both defense agency and industry users, this proposed rule would amend the DPAS to remove the controlled materials provisions and make certain revisions to its procedural requirements. These amendments will have no costs associated with them, would reduce the regulatory and information reporting burden on industry and make the DPAS more effective and efficient, would result in cost savings for defense contractors, would update certain other provisions to conform to statutory and jurisdictional changes, and would make the DPAS more compatible with current industry practices.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/01/97	62 FR 51389

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	10/31/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Sectors Affected: Multiple

Agency Contact: Richard V. Meyers, DPAS Program Manager, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Off of Strategic Industries Econ Security, National Security Preparedness Div., Room 3878, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-3634
Fax: 202 482-5650
Email: rmeyers@bxa.doc.gov

RIN: 0694-AA02

420. TRANSFER OF CERTAIN REMOTE SENSING SATELLITES FROM THE U.S. MUNITIONS LIST TO THE CCL

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 18 USC 2510 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700 to 799

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The former COCOM Industrial List (IL) controls dual-use items, which have both civil and military applications. At present, there is not a direct correspondence between the IL and the Commerce Control List (CCL) because some IL items are controlled by the State Department under the United States Munitions List (USML). In his November 15, 1990 memorandum disapproving H.R. 4653, former President Bush determined that

“by June 1, 1991, the United States will remove from the U.S. Munitions List all items contained on the COCOM dual-use list unless significant U.S. national security interests would be jeopardized.” This rule will implement Commerce controls on those items removed from the USML as a result of the President’s 1990 decision. Remote sensing satellites are such an item, and this rule specifically provides for their transfer from the USML to the CCL.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/21/96	61 FR 54540
Final Action	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: James A. Lewis, Director, Office of Strategic Trade and Foreign Policy Control, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-4196
Fax: 202 482-4094
Email: jlewis@bxa.doc.gov

RIN: 0694-AB09

421. ADMINISTRATION OF STATE LOG EXPORTS BAN

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 18 USC 2510 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700 to 799

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, June 1, 1998.

Title 6 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1998 (PL 105-03)

DOC—BXA

Final Rule Stage

Abstract: The rule will provide the Department of Commerce's regulations implementing the ban on the export of unprocessed timber originating from non-Federal public lands in 17 western states, pursuant to the Forest Resource Conservation and Shortage Relief Act of 1990, as amended (FRCSRA). This rule defines the actions the Department will take to implement the State log export ban.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	06/07/95	60 FR 30030
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/07/95	
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: State, Local

Agency Contact: Bernard Kritzer, Manager, Short Supply Programs, Chemical/Biological Control, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-0894
Fax: 202 482-0751

RIN: 0694-AB25

422. CHANGE THE COMMERCE CONTROL LIST TO REVISE CONTROLS ON COMMUNICATION INTERCEPTING DEVICES (EXPORT COMMERCE CONTROL NUMBER ECCN 5A980)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 18 USC 2510 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700 to 799

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Validated licenses are required for the export or reexport of all communication interception devices to all destinations (including Canada). The Export Administration Regulations specify that such exports or reexports will only be issued to: (1) a provider of wire or electronic communication service or an officer, agent or employee of or person under contract with such a provider in the normal course of the business of providing that wire or

electronic communication service; or (2) officers, agents, or employees of, or person under contract with the United States, one of the 50 States, or a political subdivision thereof, when engaged in the normal course of government activities. Commerce will need to make changes to the Commerce Control List and the Export Administration Regulations to clarify the requirements for issuing export licenses.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: James A. Lewis, Director, Office of Strategic Trade and Foreign Policy Controls, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-4196
Fax: 202 482-4094
Email: jlewis@bxa.doc.gov

RIN: 0694-AB41

423. LICENSING OF, AND EXPANSION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY CONTROLS ON, RECOVERABLE ENCRYPTION SOFTWARE

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 18 USC 2510 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700 to 799

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will amend the Export Administration Regulations by imposing enhanced national security and foreign policy controls on certain recoverable encryption to supplement the national security controls on those items. This rule will also amend the EAR to exclude recoverable encryption software from the de minimis provisions for exports from abroad of foreign-origin software incorporating U.S.-origin software. In addition, this rule amends the Commerce Control List by adding ECCNs to control recoverable encryption software transferred from the U.S. Munitions List.

The December 13, 1996, and December 30, 1996, rules were inadvertently published with the RIN (regulatory identifier number) 0648-AB09.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Licensing of Key Escrow Encryption Equipment and Software	12/13/96	61 FR 65460
Encryption Items Transferred From the USMC to the CCL	12/30/96	61 FR 68572
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Nancy Crowe, Export Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB47

424. CLARIFICATION OF LICENSE EXCEPTION GFT (HUMANITARIAN DONATIONS)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 18 USC 2510 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 740

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule amends the Export Administration Regulations by clarifying the terms and conditions of applying to the shipment of humanitarian donations under license exception GFT. This rule provides guidance on the types of donors, end-users, and items that are eligible for this license exception.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hillary Hess, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230

DOC—BXA

Final Rule Stage

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694—AB49

425. REVISIONS TO EAR AS A RESULT OF THE ADDITION OF BRAZIL AND UKRAINE TO THE NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 18 USC 2570 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 24091 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 700 to 799**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: As a result of Brazil and Ukraine being admitted to the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG), this rule adds Brazil and Ukraine to Supplement Number 1 to part 740-, Country Group A, Column A:4 (Nuclear Suppliers) and removes Brazil and Ukraine from the Commerce Country Chart, NP Column 1 (Nuclear Nonproliferation). The subscribing governments have agreed to establish export licensing procedures for the transfer of items identified on the Annex to the "Nuclear-Related Dual-Use Equipment, Materials, and Related Technology List," which is published by the International Atomic Energy Agency and adhered to by the United States and other subscribing governments in the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

This action will lessen the administrative burden on U.S. Exporters by decreasing licensing requirements for exports of items controlled for nuclear nonproliferation reasons to Brazil and Ukraine.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Sharron Cook, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694—AB50

426. REVISIONS TO COMMERCE CONTROL LIST: ADDITION OF TECHNOLOGY AND SOFTWARE CONTROLS FOR CERTAIN CRIME CONTROL COMMODITIES**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 18 USC 2570 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)**CFR Citation:** 14 CFR 799**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The Bureau of Export Administration is amending the Commerce Control List (CCL) of the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730 to 774) to add technology and software controls for certain crime control commodities.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Sharron Cook, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694—AB53

427. DE MINIMIS EXCLUSION FOR TECHNOLOGY AND SOFTWARE**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 18 USC 2501 et seq; 30 USC 185; 10 USC 7429; 50 USC 1701 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(e); 43 USC 1354; EO 11912; EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 730 to 799**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This interim rule will amend the Export Administration Regulations by revising the one-time reporting requirement for reliance on calculation for the "de minimis" exclusion for software and technology. This rule will make the report voluntary.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Nancy Crowe, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694—AB62

428. REVISIONS TO ANTITERRORISM CONTROLS**Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 18 USC 2501 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 40 USC 466(c); EO 11912; EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 730 to 799**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule will revise the antiterrorism provisions of the Export Administration Regulations (EAR). The rule will be published in two parts. The first part makes exports or certain reexports to entities named on the Office of Foreign Assets Control's list of Specially Designated Terrorists and Foreign Terrorist Organizations a violation of the EAR, and it is not significant. The second part of the rule, which is significant, prohibits exports of parts or components for the service or repair of civil aircraft owned or controlled by the military of a terrorist-supporting country and expands the list of items controlled for antiterrorism reasons on the Commerce Control List.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Hillary Hess, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694—AB63

DOC—BXA

Final Rule Stage

429. • REVISION TO ECCN 1C350 (MIXTURES): REMOVAL OF SOLVENT FREE BASIS CALCULATION REQUIREMENT AND TRACE QUANTITY EXEMPTION**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 18 USC 2510 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(e); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 46 USC 466(c); EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 730 to 774**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** Chemicals capable of being used as precursors for chemical weapons agents are controlled for export on the CCL under ECCN 1C350. Note 2 of the License Requirement Notes section describes a three-tier de minimis exemption for mixtures that contain these controlled chemicals. This rule removes the requirement to calculate the weight percentage on a solvent-free basis. The de minimis exception for mixtures will be based on the weight percentage of controlled chemicals on the absolute (total) weight of the mixture.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Sharron Cook, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355**RIN:** 0694-AB66**430. • IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION; REVISIONS TO THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 18 USC 2501 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(c); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 40 USC 466(c); EO 11912; EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997 (62 FR 43629)**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 730 to 774**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This rule implements the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)

that affect exports and reexports subject to the jurisdiction of the Commerce Department by amending the Export Administration Regulations. Specifically, this rule modifies an existing License Exception to permit the export of technology to foreign nationals during inspections of chemical facilities in the U.S. pursuant to the CWC and to permit the export or reexport of equipment for use in inspections in countries party to the CWC, adds licensing requirements for certain chemicals listed in the CWC, adds a requirement for an End-Use Certificate for exports of certain chemicals to those countries that are not a party to the CWC, and adds a notification and annual report requirement.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Nancy Crowe, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355**RIN:** 0694-AB67

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Long-Term Actions

Bureau of Export Administration (BXA)

431. REVISION OF FOREIGN BOYCOTT PROVISIONS OF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 760**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/26/89	54 FR 39415
NPRM Comment Period End	10/26/89	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dexter Price
Phone: 202 482-5914
Fax: 202 482-0913**RIN:** 0694-AA11**432. TRANSFER OF DUAL-USE ITEMS FROM U.S. MUNITIONS LIST TO THE COMMERCE CONTROL LIST****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 15 CFR 799.1**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Transfer of Communications Satellites	10/23/92	57 FR 48312
Navigation and Avionics	06/23/93	58 FR 34211
Final Rule: Transfer of Commercial Communication Satellites	09/08/93	58 FR 47322
Transfer of Items From the USMI to the CCL; Imposition of Certain Foreign Policy Controls	10/26/93	58 FR 57549

Action	Date	FR Cite
Satellite Fuel	09/29/97	62 FR 50865
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** James A. Lewis
Phone: 202 482-4196
Fax: 202 482-4094
Email: jlewis@bxa.doc.gov**RIN:** 0694-AA52**433. IMPLEMENTATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** Not yet determined**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	12/23/94	59 FR 66291

DOC—BXA

Long-Term Actions

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM Comment Period End	01/23/95	
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Nancy Crowe

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB06

434. CLARIFICATION OF ENHANCED PROLIFERATION CONTROL INITIATIVE (EPCI) "CATCH-ALL" PROVISION AND VALIDATED LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700 to 799

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hillary Hess

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB10

435. LIBYA: EXPANSION OF FOREIGN POLICY CONTROLS

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700 to 799

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sharron Cook

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB28

436. EXPORTS OF TECHNOLOGY AND SOFTWARE; RELEASE OF TECHNOLOGY OR SOURCE CODE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS IN THE UNITED STATES

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 730 to 799

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hillary Hess

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB59

437. REVISIONS TO THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS; ADDITIONS TO THE ENTITY LIST

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 744

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Addition to Entity List	05/16/97	62 FR 26922
Addition to Entity List	06/30/97	62 FR 35334
Addition to Entity List	06/30/97	62 FR 35335
Revision to Entity List	10/01/97	62 FR 51369
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sharron Cook

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB60

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Completed Actions

Bureau of Export Administration (BXA)

438. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT LIST OF DUAL-USE ITEMS: REVISIONS TO THE COMMERCE CONTROL LIST AND REPORTING UNDER THE WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 700 to 799

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/15/98	63 FR 2452
Final Action Effective	01/15/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: James A. Lewis

Phone: 202 482-4196

Fax: 202 482-4094

Email: jlewis@bxa.doc.gov

RIN: 0694-AB35

439. REVISIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS TO THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS; COMMERCE CONTROL LIST

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 774

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	01/15/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Patricia Muldonian

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB55

440. OSCILLOSCOPES: ECCNS 3A202 AND 3E201

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 730 to 799

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/05/97	62 FR 42047
Final Action Effective	08/06/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Sharron Cook

Phone: 202 482-2440

Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB61

441. REVISIONS TO THE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS: DUTY TO INQUIRE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 730 to 799

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	01/15/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

DOC—BXA

Completed Actions

Agency Contact: Sharron Cook
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355
RIN: 0694-AB64

EO 12924; Notice of August 13, 1997
(62 FR 43629)

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 740; 15 CFR 742

Legal Deadline: None

442. • EXPORTS OF HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTERS UNDER LICENSE EXCEPTION CTP

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 18 USC 2501 et seq; 30 USC 185; 42 USC 6212; 10 USC 7429; 10 USC 7430(c); 50 USC 1710 et seq; 22 USC 3201 et seq; 42 USC 2139(a); 43 USC 1354; 50 USC app 2401 et seq; 40 USC 466(c); EO 11912;

Abstract: The Bureau of Export Administration (BXA) is amending the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730-799) by revising the requirements for exports and reexports of high performance computers. This revision implements sections 1211-1215 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 1998 (P.L. 105-85, 111 Stat. 1629), signed by the President on November 18, 1997.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/03/98	63 FR 5448
Final Action Effective	02/03/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hillary Hess, Policy Analyst, Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2440
Fax: 202 482-3355

RIN: 0694-AB65

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Long-Term Actions

National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)

443. • NATIONAL TYPE EVALUATION PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 15 USC 272

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The National Institute of Standards and Technology plans to issue regulations establishing procedures for the National Type Evaluation Program.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Tina Butcher, NTE Program Manager, Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards & Technology, Room 223 Building 820, Gaithersburg, MD 20899
Phone: 301 975-2196

RIN: 0693-AB45

444. • NIST TRACEABLE REFERENCE MATERIALS PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 15 USC 272

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The National Institute of Standards and Technology plans to issue regulations establishing procedures for the NIST Reference Materials Program.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Thomas E. Gills, TRM Program Chief, Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards & Technology, Room 112, Engineering Mechanics Building, Gaithersburg, MD 20899
Phone: 301 975-2016

RIN: 0693-AB46

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Completed Actions

National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)

445. PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF FASTENER QUALITY ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 280

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/14/98	63 FR 18259
Final Action Effective	05/14/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Subhas Malghan
Phone: 301 975-4510

RIN: 0693-AB43

446. AMENDMENTS TO THE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 295

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/09/97	62 FR 69682
Final Action Effective	12/09/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Michael Rubin
Phone: 301 975-2803

RIN: 0693-AB44

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Prerule Stage

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICE447. • AMEND THE BLUEFIN
STATISTICAL DOCUMENT TO ALLOW
FOR THE ATTACHMENT OF RE-
EXPORT CERTIFICATES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 971 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 285

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) recommends that ICCAT Bluefin Tuna Re-export Certificates be validated by government organizations that are accredited by a contracting party's government to validate the ICCAT Bluefin Statistical Document.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AL02

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Proposed Rule Stage

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICE448. AMENDMENT 10 TO THE
FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR
THE ATLANTIC SURF CLAM AND
OCEAN QUAHOG FISHERIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This amendment would manage the fishery for mahogany clams (ocean quahogs) off a portion of the coast of Maine, in the EEZ.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200
Fax: 978 281-9135

RIN: 0648-AF41

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This FMP would manage tilefish (*Lopholatilus chamaeleonticeps*) in the EEZ along the Atlantic Coast north of the Virginia/North Carolina border to rebuild the stock.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	02/00/99	
Final Action	08/00/99	
Final Action Effective	09/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9300
Fax: 978 281-9135

RIN: 0648-AF87

450. AMENDMENT 1 TO THE FISHERY
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ATLANTIC
BILLFISH

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 644

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This amendment will define overfishing for Atlantic billfish, clarify the plan objectives and the definition of optimum yield, and implement regulatory changes to reduce fishing mortality.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
Final Action	09/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-7334

RIN: 0648-AF88

451. REGULATORY AMENDMENT FOR
MANAGING PELAGIC FISHERIES BY
U.S. VESSELS BEYOND EEZ
THROUGHOUT PACIFIC

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment would extend permit, reporting, and observer placement requirements on longline vessels of the U.S. that are fishing stocks in the management unit for the Fishery Management Plan for Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific

449. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR TILEFISH

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Region beyond the exclusive economic zone in the Pacific Ocean. The rule is necessary for comprehensive monitoring of all vessels fishing common stocks and possibly affecting the status of the shared stocks, other fishery interests, or protected resources so that the need for conservation and management measures can be determined.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/98	
Final Action	11/00/98	
Final Action Effective	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90804-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AG85

452. AMENDMENT 3 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE REEF FISH FISHERY OF PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of the comment period.

Abstract: Amendment 3 would: Revise the overfishing definition for red hind to ensure better conservation of this highly utilized resource and restrict the use of gillnets in the exclusive economic zone of the Caribbean.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AG87

453. AMENDMENT 1 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CORALS AND REEF-ASSOCIATED PLANTS AND INVERTEBRATES FOR PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of the comment period.

Abstract: Amendment 1 would establish marine conservation districts to conserve representative reef areas and fishery habitat in the exclusive economic zone of the Caribbean.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AG88

454. REGULATORY AMENDMENT FOR THE GULF OF ALASKA SEAMOUNT FISHERIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: To provide effective management tools for monitoring groundfish catch harvested seaward of the EEZ to discourage illegal harvests in the EEZ.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/98	
Final Action	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AG94

455. AMENDMENT 1 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ATLANTIC BLUEFISH

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This amendment would revise the management of the fishery and include measures which will be specified annually for commercial quotas and recreational possession limits for Atlantic Bluefish in the U.S. EEZ.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/98	
Final Action	09/00/98	
Final Action Effective	10/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200

RIN: 0648-AH63

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

456. REGULATORY AMENDMENT REQUIRING LONGLINE VESSEL OPERATORS IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC PELAGIC FISHERIES TO CARRY OBSERVERS AT NO COST TO U.S. GOVERNMENT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: The current NMFS-funded longline fishery observer program would be replaced by an industry-funded program. NMFS would certify third-party providers of observer services, and vessel owners would contract with these third parties for observer services when advised that an observer must be carried by the vessel. An Observer Plan prepared by NMFS would establish the roles and relationships of NMFS, observer providers, and vessel owners.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	
Final Action	07/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Analysis: Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AI31

457. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ADJUST THE ANNUAL TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH FOR ROYAL RED SHRIMP IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment, prepared under the framework rulemaking procedure of the Fishery Management Plan for the Shrimp Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico (FMP), would amend the regulations implementing the FMP to temporarily increase the total allowable catch (TAC) for royal red shrimp by 30 percent each year for two years, thereby increasing TAC from 392,000 pounds to 509,600 pounds.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	
Final Action	07/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AI39

458. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION BY ALASKA GROUND FISH PROCESSORS OF WEEKLY PRODUCTION REPORTS AND CHECK IN/OUT REPORTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Regulatory amendment to require electronic submission of catch and processing location reports by processors participating in the Alaska groundfish fisheries. The need for this action is to obtain more timely data on inseason fishing activities at less burden and cost to the industry and NMFS.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AI66

459. AMENDMENT TO THE OBSERVER PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Amendments to FMP Amendment 47 to the Groundfish of the BSAI and FMP Amendment 47 to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish to implement an observer program, replacing the interim Observer Program.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AI69

460. FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ATLANTIC HERRING FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This fishery management plan would supersede the preliminary management plan and regulate fishing activity in the EEZ.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/98	
Final Action	10/00/98	
Final Action Effective	11/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200**RIN:** 0648-AI78**461. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO REVISE THE PRODUCT RECOVERY RATE REGULATIONS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Regulatory amendment to implement new product codes for certain species for conversion of product weight to round weight for groundfish fisheries off of Alaska.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AI87**462. PROPOSED RULE TO IMPLEMENT VESSEL IDENTIFICATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE HIGH SEAS FISHING COMPLIANCE ACT OF 1995****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 5501**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 300**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This action will implement vessel identification and reporting requirements for U.S. vessels licensed to fish on the high seas.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Gary Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, Md. 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334
Fax: 301 713-0596

Phone: 301 713-2334

Fax: 301 713-0596

RIN: 0648-AI99**463. FISHERY DATA REPORTING FOR WESTERN PACIFIC PELAGIC FISHERIES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This action will ensure collection and availability of data on catch, effort, and economic values needed to develop, implement, evaluate, and modify pelagic fisheries management measures under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The regulations will require fishery participants to report to NMFS if existing state data systems are not providing data when, where, and in the format needed for management decisions.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/98	
Final Action	10/00/98	
Final Action Effective	11/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802
Phone: 562 980-4001**RIN:** 0648-AJ08**464. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO EXTEND CALIFORNIA GILLNET REGULATIONS TO THE EEZ****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Potential extension to Federal waters of California regulations closing certain areas to use of set (gill) nets.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/98	
Final Action	01/00/99	
Final Action Effective	02/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** State, Federal**Agency Contact:** William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN, C15700 Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070
Phone: 206 526-6150**RIN:** 0648-AJ21

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

465. AMENDMENT 10 TO THE PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FMP REGARDING SALMON BYCATCH IN GROUND FISH TRAWL**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Regulations implementing Amendment 10 to the Pacific Coast Groundfish FMP would require retention, landing, and reporting of salmon caught in whiting and other groundfish trawl fisheries.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/99	
Final Action	04/00/99	
Final Action Effective	05/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Agency Contact:** William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-070
Phone: 206 526-6150**RIN:** 0648-AJ22**466. AMENDMENT 7 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ATLANTIC SEA SCALLOP FISHERY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This action would amend the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan to comply with the Sustainable Fisheries Act overfishing definition requirements. This amendment will also include financial mechanisms to allow the possibility of a days-at-sea leasing program in the future and for closed area management.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Additional Information:** Duplicate RIN for the same action - RIN 0648-AI36 is being processed under this RIN (RIN 0648-AJ33).**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200**RIN:** 0648-AJ33**467. IMPLEMENTATION OF USE OF INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE (IVR) SYSTEM TO MONITOR COMMERCIAL LANDINGS OF QUOTA MANAGED SPECIES ON WEEKLY BASIS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This action would amend the regulations implementing dealer reporter requirements for the summer flounder, scup and black sea bass, Atlantic sea scallops, Northeast multispecies, and Atlantic mackerel, squid, and butterfish fisheries. This action is taken to improve weekly monitoring of landings, by species, through the implementation of an Interactive Voice Response system to report purchases. This action would implement an interactive voice response system to monitor dealer purchases of quota-managed species.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator,Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200**RIN:** 0648-AJ37**468. IMPLEMENTATION OF A FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MONKFISH****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Fishery Management Plan for Monkfish.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/98	
Final Action	11/00/98	
Final Action Effective	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200**RIN:** 0648-AJ44**469. AMENDMENT 3 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SCALLOP FISHERY OFF ALASKA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This FMP amendment delegates management authority for the scallop fishery to the State of Alaska.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ51

470. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM FOR THE COLLECTION AND USE OF FEES IN THE INDIVIDUAL FISHING QUOTA AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT QUOTA PROGRAMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment would establish a program for the collection and use, including the procedures, of fees in the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and Community Development Quota (CDQ) Programs. The collection of fees would recover the costs of managing and enforcing IFQ and CDQ programs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ52

471. IMPLEMENTATION OF PACIFIC INSULAR AREA FISHING AGREEMENT PROVISIONS OF THE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory.

Abstract: This rule would implement provisions of the Sustainable Fisheries Act that authorizes the Secretary of State to negotiate Pacific Insular Areas Fishing Agreements (PIAFAs) under which foreign vessels could have access to portions of the U.S. exclusive economic zone around insular "States" such as Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or around U.S. Possessions in the Pacific. Fees paid to the U.S. for such access would revert to the government of the insular area around which the fishing occurred. PIAFAs could only be entered into with the agreement of the Governor of the relevant insular area. Conservation plans, which must be prepared in consultation with the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council and must be consistent with relevant fishery management plans, would specify such things as allowable levels of fishing and activities for which funds collected would be spent. Foreign fishing permits would specify conditions and restrictions governing foreign vessel activities. The rule would revise the foreign fishing regulations at 50 CFR part 600 to allow fishing under a PIAFA and might also establish terms and conditions common to fishing under PIAFAs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/98	
Final Action	08/00/98	
Final Action Effective	10/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AJ60

472. ATLANTIC SHARK FISHERIES; AMENDMENT 2 (INCLUDING REBUILDING SCHEDULE)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: The Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation & Management Act requires that the shark FMP be amended within one year. HMS intends to incorporate a new rebuilding schedule in that amendment.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ64

473. ATLANTIC TUNA FISHERIES; REGULATORY ADJUSTMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 971 et seq; 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS proposes to amend regulations governing the Atlantic tuna fisheries to modify target catch requirements for the Incidental longline ABT fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/98	

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/00/98	
Final Action Effective	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ66

474. ATLANTIC TUNA FISHERIES; FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 971 et seq; 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Magnuson Management Plan for Atlantic Tunas Fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment	11/00/98	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ67

475. ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES; MEASURES TO MANAGE THE DRIFT GILLNET SECTION OF THE ATLANTIC SWORDFISH FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulations to implement the Atlantic Offshore Cetaceans Take Reduction Plan and other alternatives will be considered for management of the drift gillnet sector of the Atlantic swordfish fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment	06/00/98	
Period End		
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ68

476. PROPOSED RULE TO IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES FOR ISSUANCE OF PERMITS UNDER SECTION 204(D) OF THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1824

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600F

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: The Sustainable Fisheries Act amended the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA) to, among other things, provide for the issuance of transshipment permits under the newly established section 204(d) of the MSFCMA. This action will specify procedures to be used to issue permits.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ70

477. INTERIM FINAL RULE TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE AMERICAN LOBSTER FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1501 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 697

Legal Deadline: Other, Statutory, March 1, 1998.

Other deadline is for interim regulations.

Abstract: This action would prohibit any vessel that takes lobsters in the EEZ with mobile gear from landing lobsters at any location within the United States in excess of (1) 100 lobsters for each fishing trip of 24 hours or less duration, or (2) 500 lobsters for a fishing trip of 5 days or longer.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	03/02/98	63 FR 10154
NPRM	04/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200

RIN: 0648-AJ74

478. FISHERIES OBLIGATION GUARANTEE PROGRAM—STATUTORY AMENDMENTS TO ESTABLISH “CENTRAL TITLE AND LIEN REGISTRY FOR LIMITED ACCESS PERMITS”

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 46 USC 1271 to 1279

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 253; 50 CFR 600

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request for Comments regarding establishment of a central title and lien registry as required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	05/07/97	62 FR 24897
ANPRM Comment Period End	08/05/97	
NPRM	07/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Charles L. Cooper, Program Leader, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-2396

Fax: 301 589-2686

RIN: 0648-AJ77

479. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO CHANGE MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 600**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: Regulations governing the operation and membership of the Regional Fishery Management Councils will be revised based on provisions in the Sustainable Fisheries Conservation and Management Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ82

480. HALIBUT DONATION PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Authorizes the donation of Pacific halibut taken as bycatch in BSAI and GOA groundfish trawl fisheries to economically disadvantaged individuals through a NMFS-authorized distributor.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668

Phone: 907 586-7221

Fax: 907 586-7249

RIN: 0648-AJ87

481. FMP AMENDMENT 53 TO BSAI GROUND FISH TO ALLOCATE SHORTRAKER AND ROUGH EYE ROCKFISH BETWEEN GEAR TYPES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This FMP amendment 53 would allocate Aleutian Island area shortraker and rougheye rockfish between vessels using trawl and vessels using fixed gear to address potential gear preemption issues and overfishing concerns for these species.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ99

482. PROPOSED RULE ON TAKING MARINE MAMMALS INCIDENTAL TO POWER PLANT OPERATIONS AT SEABROOK, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1361 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: NMFS has received an application under the Marine Mammal Protection Act for the taking of seals incidental to power plant operations from North Atlantic Energy Corporation over the next five year period. In order to authorize the taking, NMFS must determine that the mortality of several species of seals will not be more than negligible.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	07/24/97	62 FR 39799
ANPRM Comment Period End	08/25/97	
NPRM	06/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth R. Hollingshead, Fishery Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-2055

Fax: 301 713-0376

RIN: 0648-AK00

483. AMENDMENTS TO FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS TO IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENTS TO THE MAGNUSON-STEVENSON ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622; 50 CFR 630; 50 CFR 648; 50 CFR 660; 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Other, Statutory, October 1998.

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Statutory deadlines will depend on the specific measures taken, but must comply with the Sustainable Fisheries Act.

Abstract: The Sustainable Fisheries Act requires that Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) prepared by the Regional Fishery Management Councils (Councils) comply with new requirements, including essential fish habitat, overfishing definitions, rebuilding plans, and bycatch minimization. Until national standard guidelines are implemented and the councils can assess the need to amend their FMPs, it is not known how many individual amendments will be prepared, or how they may be combined. Therefore, this action is considered generic at this time.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/98	
Final Action	09/00/98	
Final Action Effective	10/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AK03

484. AMENDMENT 9 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SNAPPER-GROUPER FISHERY OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Amendment 9 would address overfishing in the snapper grouper fishery management unit. Proposed management actions include: (1) increase the red porgy minimum size limit from 12 inches total length (TL) to 14 inches TL for both recreational and commercial fishermen, establish a recreational bag limit of 5 red porgy

per person per day, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during March and April, and prohibit purchase and sale during March and April; (2) increase the black sea bass minimum size limit from 8 inches TL to 10 inches TL for both recreational and commercial fishermen, and establish a recreational bag limit of 20 black sea bass per person per day; (3) require escape vents and escape panels with degradable fasteners in black bass pots; (4) establish measures for greater amberjack that will: reduce the recreational bag limit from 3 to 1 greater amberjack per person per day, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during April throughout the EEZ, establish a 1,000 pound daily commercial trip limit, establish a quota at 63% of 1995 landings (quota=1,169,931 pounds), begin the fishing year on May 1, prohibit sale of fish harvested under the bag limit when the season is closed, and prohibit coring; (5) increase the recreational vermillion snapper minimum size limit from 10 inches to 11 inches TL; (6) increase the gag grouper minimum size limit from 20 inches TL to 24 inches TL for both recreational and commercial fishermen, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during March and April, and prohibit purchase and sale during March and April; (7) increase the black grouper minimum size limit from 20 inches to 24 inches TL for both recreational and commercial fishermen, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during March and April, and prohibit purchase and sale during March and April; (8) specify that within the 5-fish aggregate grouper bag limit (which currently includes tilefish and excludes jewfish and Nassau grouper), no more than 2 fish may be gag or black grouper (individually or in combination); (9) establish an aggregate recreational bag limit of 20 fish per person per day inclusive of all snapper grouper species currently not under a bag limit, excluding tomtate and blue runners (there would be no bag limit on tomtate and blue runners); and (10) specify that vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy grouper, warsaw grouper, yellowedge grouper, misty grouper, golden tilefish, blueline tilefish, and sand tilefish.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive, N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301
Fax: 813 570-5300

RIN: 0648-AK05

485. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO IMPLEMENT ROLLING CLOSURES DURING THE SABLEFISH FISHERY IN THE GULF OF ALASKA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Implement Rolling closures during the Sablefish fishery in the Gulf of Alaska.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK10

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

486. ADJUSTMENT OF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR PELAGIC SPECIES FISHERIES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This action will modify the management program for the fisheries for swordfish, tuna, and associated species in the western Pacific region. Possible changes include measures to prevent or mitigate the take of seabirds or turtles in the longline fishery, to address bycatch of sharks, to establish new measures and/or limited entry for the longline fishery in American Samoa, and measures to prevent gear conflicts at seamounts used by different gear types.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	09/00/98	
Final Action	10/00/98	
Final Action Effective	11/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001**RIN:** 0648-AK11**487. FMP AMENDMENTS FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AND FOR THE GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Inshore/Offshore allocation of pollock and Pacific cod and reauthorization of pollock CDQ program.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/98	
Final Action	11/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK12**488. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO SPECIFY MINIMAL VESSEL OWNERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HIRED SKIPPER PROVISION IN THE IFQ FISHERIES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final requirements to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Specify minimal vessel ownership requirements for the hired skipper provision in the IFQ fisheries.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK20**489. ADJUSTMENT OF THE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR BOTTOMFISH AND SEAMOUNT GROUND FISH FISHERIES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This action will modify the management program for the fisheries for bottomfish and seamount groundfish in the northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Possible changes include a new limited entry program for the Mau Zone, allowing transfers of Ho'omalū Zone limited entry permits, establishing new measures for consistency of Federal and State management around the main Hawaiian Islands, and extending indefinitely the moratorium on harvest of seamount groundfish.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/98	
Final Action	11/00/98	
Final Action Effective	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802
Phone: 562 980-4001**RIN:** 0648-AK21**490. ADJUSTMENT OF THE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR PRECIOUS CORALS FISHERIES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Abstract: This action will modify the management program for fisheries for precious corals in the western Pacific region to enhance the ability to prevent fishing while facilitating the development of new fisheries in the region. Possible changes include changing harvest limits for specific beds or areas, changing species-specific harvest limits, and reclassifying beds among categories as new information becomes available on the distribution and abundance of coral resources in the exclusive economic zone.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	03/00/99	
Final Action	04/00/99	
Final Action Effective	05/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AK23

491. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO IMPLEMENT 1998 NONTRAWL SABLEFISH HARVEST REGIME

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This action would implement regulatory changes to divide limited entry, fixed gear, endorsed permit holders into three tiers based on their historic fishery participation levels. Each endorsed permit holder would have an opportunity to fish towards the cumulative limit assigned to their tier during the annual primary fishery. In addition, the regulatory amendment would establish a closure of both the limited entry and open access fixed gear sablefish fisheries for 48 hours both immediately before and for 30 hours immediately after the regular

fishery and a cumulative landing limit mop-up fishery following the regular fishery, to allow sablefish endorsement holders to take any of the available harvest guideline that remains after the regular fishery has closed. These actions are intended to recognize historic and more recent participation and investment in the fixed gear sablefish fishery while eliminating the traditional open competition "derby" style management system.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AK27

492. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ADJUST MANAGEMENT MEASURES UNDER THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR REEF FISH SPECIES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO (FMP) FOR THE 1998 FISHING SEASON

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This action would amend the regulations implementing the FMP to establish management measures for the 1998 fishing season, in accordance with the FMP's framework procedure for setting annual total allowable catch (TAC) limits and associated measures. Adjusted measures include a zero bag limit for headboat and charter vessel captain and crew (all other persons not fishing under a commercial reef fish vessel permit are subject to the current 5-fish bag limit). The FMP regulates commercial and recreational fishing in the exclusive economic zone of the

Gulf of Mexico and was developed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) and approved/implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Annual management changes are proposed by the Council; NMFS publishes a proposed rule to obtain public comment on these proposals for consideration in approving/disapproving/partially approving them. Approved measures are implemented by final rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive, North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK28

493. ADDITIONAL MEASURES OF AMENDMENT 2 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SHRIMP FISHERY OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC—PROCEDURES FOR TESTING AND CERTIFICATION OF BYCATCH REDUCTION DEVICES (BRDS)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: All measures of Amendment 2 were approved by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on February 24, 1997. Under Amendment 2, BRDs certified by the NMFS are required to be used in all penaeid shrimp trawls in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in the South Atlantic (EEZ off North Carolina to Florida inclusive). The final rule to implement Amendment 2, effective April 21, 1997, certified three BRDs for such use (73 FR 18536). Amendment 2 specifies that a testing protocol would be developed so that additional BRDs

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could be tested and implemented, if they meet the bycatch reduction criterion for Spanish mackerel and weakfish (must reduce bycatch by 40 percent in number of weakfish and Spanish mackerel). The testing protocol was not completed when the proposed rule to implement Amendment 2 was published but was published with the final rule. This action would implement that part of Amendment 2 allowing testing of new BRDs and would specify that a person who proposes a BRD for certification must test such BRD and submit the results to the Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, in accordance with the "Bycatch Reduction Device Testing Protocol Manual" which contains the testing protocol and the specific reporting requirements for the test results.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive, North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK29

494. AMENDMENT 16 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE REEF FISH RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Amendment 16 contains alternatives that may: (1) prohibit the possession or use of fish traps in Gulf Federal waters in two years, instead of ten years as currently scheduled; (2) establish various fish trap management measures, including a mandatory fish trap vessel monitoring system; (3) establish a one-year fish trap inspection

period, followed by additional vessel reporting requirements; (4) apply recreational reef fish bag limits to a vessel possessing, or tending, a stone crab trap or spiny lobster trap; (5) establish a slot limit of 14 to 20 inches, fork length, for commercial and/or recreational harvest of lesser amberjack and banded rudderfish; (6) prohibit the sale of lesser amberjack, banded rudderfish, and/or Almaco jack, less than 36 inches, fork length (see related Item 5, above); (7) establish a five-fish aggregate bag limit for lesser amberjack and/or banded rudderfish (currently in the 20-fish aggregate bag limit); (8) remove sand perch, dwarf sand perch, and queen triggerfish from the FMP; (9) move hogfish into the FMP's management unit; (10) remove the fishery and management unit classification described in the FMP; (11) establish Florida-compatible size limits for 15 grouper and snapper species; and (12) establish Florida-compatible bag limits for red snapper and hogfish.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/98	
Final Action	05/00/98	
Final Action Effective	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive, North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK31

495. REGULATORY AMENDMENT FOR A BYCATCH REDUCTION DEVICE (BRD) TESTING AND CERTIFICATION PROTOCOL UNDER AMENDMENT 9 TO THE FMP FOR THE SHRIMP FISHERY OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Amendment 9: Requires the use of BRDs certified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in most shrimp trawls used in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico shoreward of the 100-fathom depth contour west of Cape San Blas, Florida; sets the bycatch reduction criterion for the certification of BRDs (BRDs must reduce the bycatch mortality of juvenile red snapper by at least 44 percent from a prescribed baseline level); and establishes an FMP framework procedure for modifying the bycatch reduction criterion, for establishing and modifying the BRD testing protocol and its specifications, and for certifying and decertifying BRDs. Amendment 9 is intended to significantly reduce the shrimp fishery bycatch of red snapper (and other finfish) to allow rebuilding of this valuable, overfished species. The subject action would amend the final rule to implement Amendment 9 to establish, consistent with the FMPs framework procedure, a BRD testing and certification protocol to be used by NMFS for certifying new or modified BRDs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	05/00/98	
Final Action Effective	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive No., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK32

496. OPTIONS FOR 1997 RULEMAKING FOR BANNING THE SALE OF UNDERSIZED ATLANTIC SWORDFISH

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 971 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: A recommendation was adopted by ICCAT member nations that

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would reduce fishing mortality on swordfish in the entire Atlantic Ocean. The ICCAT alternate minimum size recommendation called for a ban on the sale of fish less than the minimum size. By implementing the minimum size on U.S. vessels operating in the Atlantic, the ban on sale has been effectively applied to U.S. production of Atlantic swordfish. However, the United States is a major market for imported swordfish and there is evidence that Atlantic swordfish less than the minimum size are entering U.S. markets. NMFS solicits comments on the possible implementation strategy of this ban on sale of swordfish less than the minimum size.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/09/97	62 FR 47416
ANPRM Comment Period End	10/06/97	
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AK39

497. • A REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR GOLDEN CRAB FISHERY OF THE SOUTHERN ATLANTIC STATES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Regulatory amendment, under the framework procedure for adjusting management measures of the Fishery Management Plan for the Golden Crab Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (FMP), that would: Extend through January 31, 1999, the authorized use of wire cable in the golden crab fishery in the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone; revise the vessel size limitations

applicable when a vessel permit is transferred to another vessel; remove from final regulations implementing the FMP the eligibility criteria and procedures for obtaining initial commercial permits in the golden crab fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK43

498. • AMENDMENT 6 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE STONE CRAB FISHERY OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The purpose of Amendment 6 is to continue the FMP's temporary moratorium on registration of stone crab vessels by the Regional Administrator. Such moratorium shall be for 4 years duration. This action is needed to provide additional time for the industry and the state of Florida to develop and implement a limited access system for the fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/98	
Final Action	05/00/98	
Final Action Effective	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Dr. N., St. Petersburg, FL 83702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK48

499. • LIST OF GEAR AND FISHERIES UNDER JURISDICTION OF EACH FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL OR THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Major: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600; 50 CFR 622; 50 CFR 630; 50 CFR 644; 50 CFR 648; 50 CFR 649; 50 CFR 654; 50 CFR 660; 50 CFR 678; 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: As required by section 305 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, NMFS will issue a list of fisheries and fishing gear used in those fisheries under the authority of each Regional Fishery Management Council, and the Secretary of Commerce, in the case of Atlantic highly migratory species. This rule will also contain guidelines for determining when a fishery or gear is sufficiently different from those in the list so that fishermen or individuals would have to notify the appropriate authority (beginning 180 days after the final rule is published).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AK49

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500. • REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO AMEND PORTIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL FISHING QUOTA PROGRAM REGULATIONS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Regulatory amendment to amend portions of the regulations implementing the Individual Fishing Quota Program for the Pacific halibut and sablefish fixed gear fisheries in and off of Alaska.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK50**501. • IMPLEMENTATION OF AMENDMENT 3 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PRECIOUS CORALS FISHERIES OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC REGION****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This regulation is to implement Amendment 3 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Precious Corals Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region by adding framework procedures by which regulations can be modified quickly in the future through rulemaking rather than (FMP) amendment; and by including the corals resources in the

exclusive economic zone seaward of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in the management unit. These actions will enhance the ability to prevent overfishing by rapidly responding to new information or conditions in all areas in the Western Pacific Council's jurisdiction.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/98	
Final Action	11/00/98	
Final Action Effective	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001**RIN:** 0648-AK60**502. • MODIFICATION OF HARVEST GUIDELINE SYSTEM FOR HAWAIIAN LOBSTER FISHERY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This regulation will modify the current harvest guideline system for the portion of the crustaceans fishery that operates in the northwestern Hawaiian Islands incorporating the latest results of research, fishery data analysis, and modeling of the stock. Possible adjustments include establishment of harvest limits for specific banks and of limits on specific species of lobster found in the area.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001**RIN:** 0648-AK61**503. • SEASONAL APPORTIONMENTS OF POLLOCK TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL GULF OF ALASKA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This amendment would change the seasonal apportionments of pollock total allowable catch in the western and central regulatory areas of the Gulf of Alaska to constrain the increase in pollock fishing activity during the fall months to protect sea lions.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	08/00/98	
Final Action Effective	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK71**504. • AMENDMENT 52 TO THE FMP FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA AND AMENDMENT 52 TO THE FMP FOR THE GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory.

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Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: These FMP amendments would establish a vessel registration program for critical fisheries and a 48-hour stand down requirement for vessels transiting between the BSAI and GOA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	08/00/98	
Final Action	09/00/98	
Final Action Effective	10/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK73

505. • FISHING CAPACITY REDUCTION PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1861(b) to 1861(e)

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 253

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: To establish a fishing capacity reduction program, commonly called a buyback, as required by the Sustainable Fisheries Act to address the problem of excess fishing capacity in most fisheries. This will involve paying fishermen to either surrender their fishing permits or both surrender their permits and scrap their fishing vessels.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Michael L. Grable, Chief, Financial Services Division, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2390

Fax: 301 713-1939

RIN: 0648-AK76

506. • 1998 RECREATIONAL FISHERY MEASURES FOR SUMMER FLOUNDER, SCUP, AND BLACK SEA BASS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule proposes a possession limit of 8 fish per person and a minimum fish size of 15 inches for the 1998 Summer Flounder Recreational Fishery; a minimum fish size of 10 inches and an August 1 through August 15 seasonal closure for the 1998 Black Sea Bass Recreational Fishery; and no change in the current regulations for the 1998 Scup Recreational Fishery (7 inch minimum fish size).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200
Fax: 978 281-9135

RIN: 0648-AK78

507. • RULE TO IMPLEMENT A FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SPINY DOGFISH FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Fishery Management Plan will include management measures for the Spiny Dogfish Fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200
Fax: 978 281-0135

RIN: 0648-AK79

508. • RULE TO IMPLEMENT AMENDMENT 7 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE ATLANTIC MACKEREL, SQUID, AND BUTTERFISH FISHERIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Amendment 7 would implement limited entry for the Atlantic Mackerel Fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	11/00/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200
Fax: 978 281-9135

RIN: 0648-AK80

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

509. • SECRETARIAL AMENDMENT TO STANDARDIZE FISHING VESSEL TRANSFER, REPLACEMENT, AND UPGRADE REGULATIONS IN THE NORTHEAST REGION FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This action would amend three separate Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Plans (Squid/Mackerel/Butterfish, Summer Flounder/Scup/Black Sea Bass, and Surf Clam/Ocean Quahog) to achieve consistency among Northeast Region Fishery Management Plan's regarding fishing vessel transfer, replacement and upgrade provisions. The Mid-Atlantic provisions will be amended to conform with current New England provisions. The reason for this amendment is that many vessels have fishing permits issued under FMP's developed by both the Mid-Atlantic and the New England Fishery Management Councils. Whenever a vessel is bought, sold, replaced or upgraded, the current myriad of regulations regarding these actions is confusing to industry and government.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/98	
Final Action	07/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200
Fax: 978 281-9135

RIN: 0648-AK81**510. • REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO INITIATE CONTROL FOR THE HARVEST OF BOTTOMFISH IN THE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE AROUND THE MAIN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulation will implement an amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region. It will initiate control of the harvest of bottomfish in the exclusive economic zone around the main Hawaiian Islands to ensure rebuilding of some stocks and maintenance of other healthy stocks. Possible measures include area closures, harvest limits, size limits, and season closures. These measures will complement action by the State of Hawaii to limit fishing in State waters to prevent overfishing and rebuild stocks.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	01/00/99	
Final Action	02/00/99	
Final Action Effective	03/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AK82**511. • AMENDMENT 13 TO THE PACIFIC COAST SALMON PLAN****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Regulations implementing Amendment 13 to the Pacific Coast Salmon Plan would change the management of Oregon coastal natural (OCN) coho salmon to use the most recent estimates of spawning escapements abundance and anticipated marine survival to ensure the protection and timely rebuilding of the stock consistent with the Oregon Coastal Salmon Initiative.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	04/00/98	
Final Action	05/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Organizations**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 San Point Way NE., Seattle, WA 98115-0070
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AK83**512. • REVISE EXEMPTED FISHING REGULATIONS TO SPECIFY COMPENSATORY FISHING UNDER EXEMPTED FISHING****Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 600**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action would revise current exempted fishing regulations to specifically authorize the use of an exempted fishing permit as the method of allowing the compensation of private vessels for their conduct of resource assessment. Specific methodology for vessel compensation would be developed on a fishery-by-fishery basis. The rule would also make other minor changes in the regulations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	

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Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AK84

513. • ESTABLISH RULES TO COMPENSATE PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERMEN FOR ASSISTANCE IN RESOURCES ASSESSMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed rule would implement changes to the Pacific coast groundfish regulations at 50 CFR 660 to incorporate new provisions in the Magnuson-Stevens Act at sections 303 and 402 that allow: (a) the Council to reserve a portion of the allowable biological catch (ABC) of the fishery for scientific research, and (b) the Secretary to use the private sector to provide vessels, equipment, and services necessary to survey the fishery resources of the United States when the arrangement will yield statistically reliable results. Provisions at section 402 of the Magnuson-Stevens Act additionally allow the Secretary to compensate private vessel owners for their use of their vessels as scientific platforms with a quantity of fish. This "fish for research" (FFR) compensation would be allowed in the form of fish retained as harvest taken during the survey, or as fish harvested on a voyage subsequent to the research cruise.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN c15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle WA 98115-0070
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AK86

514. • ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA ANNUAL QUOTA SPECIFICATIONS AND EFFORT CONTROLS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq; 16 USC 971 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 285

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS proposes 1998 quota specifications for Atlantic bluefin tuna and general category effort controls.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334
Fax: 301 713-0596

RIN: 0648-AK87

515. • ATLANTIC BILLFISH SIZE LIMITS AND TOURNAMENT NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant. Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 644

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS increases the minimum size limit for Atlantic White and Blue Marlin, and institutes a requirement to notify NMFS of tournaments involving any Atlantic billfish.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334
Fax: 301 713-0596

RIN: 0648-AK88

516. • AMENDMENT 9 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGIC RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Amendment 9 proposes more than 14 management alternatives. For Gulf group king mackerel, actions are proposed to 1) change the start of the fishing year, 2) prohibit the sale of fish caught under the bag limit, 3) revise the allocation of TAC between the commercial and recreational sectors, and (4) increase the minimum size limit from 20 inches to 24 or 26 inches fork length. Also, for the eastern zone (off Florida), 5) revise the allocation of the commercial quota between the Florida east (North) and west coast (South/West Area) subzones. For the Florida west coast subzone, 6) subdivide the commercial hook-and-line quota into two separate quotas for proposed northern and southern subzones; and for the commercial run-around gillnet fishery, 7) restrict/reduce/phase-out the number of vessels holding gillnet endorsements to fish under the quota, 8) restrict the area of operation to southwest Florida, and 9) restrict the transfer of gillnet endorsements to vessels owned by the endorsement holder or his/her family members. For the western zone (Texas through Alabama), 10) subdivide the commercial quota on a seasonal or areal basis, and 11) establish a trip limit (harvest/ possession/landing limit) for commercial vessels. For both Gulf and Atlantic groups of king mackerel, 12) allow the sale of cut-off (damaged) fish taken and possessed within the established trip limits. Finally, for Gulf group Spanish mackerel, 13) establish

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

a purse seine allocation and 14) vessel trip limits.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/98	
Final Action	08/00/98	
Final Action Effective	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK89

517. • VMS PILOT PROGRAM FOR ATLANTIC SWORDFISH

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS proposes to implement a vessel monitoring system (VMS) pilot program for Atlantic swordfish in 1998. Vessels with a standard-C VMS unit on board will be issued a special permit to retain on board swordfish greater than the incidental catch limit after the directed fishery has been closed.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334
Fax: 301 713-0596

RIN: 0648-AK90

518. • RESEARCH AND MONITORING PLAN TO SUPPORT THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq; 16 USC 971 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 630

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS proposes a comprehensive research and monitoring plan to support the conservation and management of Atlantic Highly Migratory Species.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334
Fax: 301 713-0596

RIN: 0648-AK92

519. • AMENDMENT 17 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE REEF FISH RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Amendment 17 contains various options to address expiration of the commercial reef fish permit moratorium (December 31, 2000). The options may be implemented prior to the moratorium expiration date, and would apply to all species in the management unit, except red snapper. In general, the options either: (1) extend the current moratorium for an additional 3 years, or (2) replace the current provisions with a system of various classes of transferable vessel licenses or endorsements, similar to that approved for red snapper under Amendment 15.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK96

520. • PROPOSED RULE TO ADJUST THE GULF OF MEXICO RED SNAPPER TAC AND ASSOCIATED MANAGEMENT MEASURES UNDER THE FRAMEWORK PROCEDURE OF THE FMP FOR THE REEF FISH RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This action would amend the regulations implementing the FMP to establish management measures for the 1999 fishing season, in accordance with the FMP's framework procedure for setting annual total allowable catch limits and associated measures. The FMP regulates commercial and recreational fishing in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico and was developed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and approved/implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Annual management changes are proposed by the council; NMFS publishes a proposed rule to obtain public comment on these proposals for consideration in approving/disapproving/partially approving them. Approved measures are implemented by final rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	10/00/98	
Final Action	11/00/98	
Final Action Effective	01/01/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK97

521. • REGULATORY AMENDMENT - ESTABLISH 10 SMZS IN FEDERAL WATERS OFF SC AND TO PROHIBIT USE OF POWERHEADS IN THE FT. PIERCE, FL OFFSHORE SMZ IN THE SNAPPER-GROUPER FISHERY OF THE S. ATLANTIC REGION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This regulatory amendment would: (1) establish 10 SMZs around ten additional existing offshore marine artificial reef sites located in Federal waters off the South Carolina coast including a 500 meter buffer zone around each site, and (2) prohibit use of powerheads in the Ft. Pierce, Florida offshore SMZ previously established by the Council. The intent of seeking SMZ status is to ensure the continued effectiveness of each site in enhancing recreational fishing opportunities, and to protect the long-term economic and biological viability of each.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	07/00/98	
Final Action	08/00/98	
Final Action Effective	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AL00

522. • COMPENSATION OF PRIVATE VESSELS FOR THEIR CONDUCT OF RESOURCE ASSESSMENTS THROUGH EXEMPTED FISHING

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would update the general Magnuson-Stevens Act regulation to reflect changes made in that act by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1997. The rule would provide for an exempted fishing permit to be used to allow the compensation of private vessels for their conduct of resource assessments. Specific regional regulations to implement such programs would be published separately.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment Period End	05/00/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Officer of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334
Fax: 301 713-0596

RIN: 0648-AL04

523. FOREIGN NATIONS' MARINE MAMMAL PROGRAM AMENDMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216.24(e)(5)(v)(B)

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule will change the requirement that foreign nations make changes to their marine mammal programs within 180 days of the date such changes are effective for U.S. fishermen. This is necessary to provide more time for foreign governments to make such changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Sectors Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

Phone: 310 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AG05

524. TAKING AND IMPORTING OF MARINE MAMMALS: TUNA PURSE SEINE VESSEL OBSERVER EXPENSES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216.24

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS proposes to amend its regulations governing the reimbursement of tuna vessel owners for the cost of carrying NMFS observers (50 CFR 216.24(f)(4)). The regulations require that a U.S.-flag tuna purse seine vessel holding a certificate of inclusion under the general permit issued to the American Tunaboat Association carry an observer when assigned by the Director, Southwest Region, NMFS. The regulations currently require that NMFS reimburse vessel operators for all costs associated with carrying the observers. The proposed rule change would require that "the vessel owner shall incur all reasonable costs directly related to the quartering and maintaining of such observers on board such vessels."

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

Phone: 301 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AG35

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

525. TAKING AND IMPORTING OF MARINE MAMMALS; TAKING OF MARINE MAMMALS UNDER THE ATA PERMIT AFTER FEBRUARY 28, 1994**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1361 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, March 1, 1994.

Abstract: The International Dolphin Conservation Act provides that, if no major purse seine tuna fishing country enters into an agreement for a moratorium on setting on marine mammals during the course of commercial fishing operations, the total dolphin mortalities authorized under the general permit issued to the American Tunaboat Association shall not exceed the number of dolphin mortalities which occurred under the permit during the preceding year.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 310 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AG36**526. DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT; PACIFIC STEELHEAD****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1533**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory, February 16, 1995. Final, Statutory, August 9, 1998.
Endangered Species Act section 4(b)(3)(D)(ii). If steelhead are listed under the ESA by 8/9/97, then critical habitat designation will be due 8/9/98.

Abstract: If proposed, the regulation will designate critical habitat for any coastal steelhead populations that are listed under the Endangered Species Act in California, Oregon, Idaho, and Washington.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	
NPRM Comment	06/00/98	
Period End		
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fisheries Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Protected Resources, 1315 East-West Highway, F/PR3, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401

RIN: 0648-AG49**527. PROPOSED RULE TO PROVIDE REGULATIONS FOR PERMITS FOR CAPTURE, TRANSPORT, IMPORT AND EXPORT OF PROTECTED SPECIES FOR PUBLIC DISPLAY, AND FOR MAINTAINING A CAPTIVE MARINE MAMMAL INVENTORY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1372 (c)**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This proposed rule would revise and simplify criteria and procedures specific to permits for taking, transporting, importing, and exporting protected species for public display and provide convenient formats for reporting marine mammal captive holdings and transports as required by amendments made in 1994 to the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment	06/00/98	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Ann Hochman, Permits Analyst, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric

Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2289

RIN: 0648-AH26**528. PROPOSED RULE GOVERNING THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR MARINE MAMMAL PHOTOGRAPHY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1372 (c)(6)**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This rule will provide for the issuance of permits to take marine mammals by only level B harassment for the purpose of educational or commercial photography.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/00/98	
NPRM Comment	01/00/99	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Trevor Spradlin, Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2289

RIN: 0648-AH31**529. AMEND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE TAKING AND IMPORTING OF MARINE MAMMALS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1371 (a)(6)**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The proposed rule implements certain changes in the prohibitions on importing or exporting marine mammals or marine mammal parts and products that occurred with the enactment of the Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 1994 (Pub. L. 104-238). This action prohibits the export of marine mammals or marine mammal products for purposes other than public display, scientific research, or enhancing the survival of a species or stock and establishes three new categories of exceptions to the prohibition on importing marine

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

mammal parts and products. This is a non-controversial action that is not significant as it will have only minor effects on a small number of people, most of whom will benefit by the new exceptions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Tom McIntyre, Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2289

RIN: 0648-AH83

530. IMPLEMENTATION OF 1997 MMPA AMENDMENTS AFFECTING YELLOWFIN TUNA PURSE SEINE FISHING IN THE EASTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216.24

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rule would propose implementation of the 1997 amendments to the Marine Mammal Protection Act regarding regulation of the U.S. yellowfin tuna fishery and the importation of yellowfin tuna into the United States from other harvesting nations.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	
NPRM Comment	07/00/98	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: Legislation amending the MMPA regarding the yellowfin tuna fishery will require implementation of regulations 3 months after the effective date of the legislation.

Agency Contact: Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Regional Administrator, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, 501 West

Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

Phone: 310 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AI85

531. ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES; STATUS OF CHINOOK SALMON IN WASHINGTON, IDAHO, OREGON AND CALIFORNIA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1531 to 1543; 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 226; 50 CFR 227

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Judicial, February 26, 1998. Final, Statutory, February 26, 1999.

Abstract: NMFS has completed a comprehensive status review of west coast chinook salmon populations in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California. NMFS has identified 15 evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) of chinook within this range. NMFS is now proposing critical habitat for the ESUs that will be proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: joe.blum@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AK02

532. • TAKING OF MARINE MAMMALS INCIDENTAL TO ACTIVITIES AT VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, CA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS received a petition for regulations and an application from the 30th Space Wing, U.S. Air Force, for an incidental, small take exemption under section 101(a)(5)(A) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act

(MMPA) for the potential harassment of marine mammals incidental to missile and rocket launches, aircraft flight test operations and helicopter operations at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California.

Noise generated by aircraft and by missile and rocket launches on Vandenberg may cause negligible short-term impacts to pinnipeds hauled out on the Vandenberg coastline. Because the noise may potentially result in disturbance of pinnipeds, an MMPA authorization is warranted. As a result of this request, NMFS is considering whether to propose regulations that would authorize the incidental taking of a small number of marine mammals. The taking can be authorized if certain findings are made that include requirements for monitoring and reporting the take.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth Hollingshead, Fishery Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2055

RIN: 0648-AK42

533. • LIST OF FISHERIES FOR 1999

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 229

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, December 30, 1998.

Abstract: The List of Fisheries, published pursuant to section 118 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, classifies all U.S. commercial fisheries into one of three categories based on the level of incidental serious injuries and mortality to marine mammals. Participants in fisheries placed in category I, II or III are subject to different regulatory requirements under 50 CFR 229.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	
NPRM Comment	08/00/98	
Period End		

Small Entities Affected: None

DOC—NOAA

Proposed Rule Stage

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cathy Eisele, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: cathy.eisele@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AK95

NATIONAL OCEAN SURVEY/OFFICE OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

534. REVISION OF FEDERAL CONSISTENCY REGULATIONS UNDER THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1451 et seq

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 930

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rulemaking will revise the Federal consistency regulations to streamline and clarify procedural requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Federal

Agency Contact: Margo F. Jackson, Asst. General Counsel for Ocean Services, Office of General Counsel, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway, 6th Floor, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2967

RIN: 0648-AD83

535. REVISION OF OVERFLIGHT REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1431 to 1445

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 922

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations are being revised to clarify that they are for resource protection purposes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Elizabeth Moore, Sanctuaries and Resources Division, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway (N/ORM 2), Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-3145

RIN: 0648-AI91

536. • NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES TO THE COASTAL NONPOINT POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1455b

CFR Citation: None

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NOAA and EPA plan to make administrative changes to the Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program, developed under section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments, 16 USC 1455b. The Amendments require States and territories with coastal zone management programs that have received approval under section 306 of the Coastal Zone Management Act to develop and implement coastal nonpoint pollution control programs. In response to coastal States' concerns over: the ability to target the program;

enforceable policies and mechanisms; timeframes; and resources to implement coastal nonpoint programs, NOAA and EPA recently completed a dialogue with the coastal States and other interested parties, and plan to make administrative changes.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Joseph A. Urvilch, Chief, Coastal Programs Division, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-3155

RIN: 0648-AK62

537. • INTERAGENCY CONSULTATION FOR THE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1432

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 922

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NOAA plans to issue regulations to implement the Federal-agency requirements of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stephanie Campbell, Attorney-Adviser, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway, Room 6111, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2967
Fax: 301 713-4408

RIN: 0648-AL06

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Final Rule Stage

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICE**538. SECRETARIAL AMENDMENT TO
THE FMP FOR ATLANTIC SWORDFISH****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq;
16 USC 971 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 630**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published
within 30 days of end of NPRM
comment period.**Abstract:** FMP Amendment to reduce
overfishing by placing a moratorium on
issuance of new permits and
developing a limited entry system of
management.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/26/97	62 FR 8672
NPRM Comment Period End	04/28/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Gary C. Matlock,
Director, Office of Sustainable
Fisheries, Department of Commerce,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, 1315 East-West
Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334**RIN:** 0648-AE09**539. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE OF
FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
NOMINEES, MEMBERS, AND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 600**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This rule revises the rules of
conduct and financial disclosure
regulations applicable to Regional
Fishery Management Council nominees,
appointees and voting members. The
revisions would implement a provision
of the Magnuson-Stevens Act that was
amended by the Sustainable Fisheries
Act. This provision prohibits council
members from voting on matters that
would have a significant andpredictable effect on a financial interest
disclosed in accordance with existing
regulations.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/07/97	62 FR 42474
NPRM Comment Period End	09/08/97	
Final Action	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Agency Contact:** Gary C. Matlock,
Director, Office of Sustainable
Fisheries, Department of Commerce,
National Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, 1315 East-West
Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334**RIN:** 0648-AG16**540. AMENDMENT 8 TO THE FISHERY
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR COASTAL
MIGRATORY PELAGIC RESOURCES
OF THE GULF OF MEXICO AND
SOUTH ATLANTIC (FMP)****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published
within 30 days of the end of the
comment period.**Abstract:** Amendment 8 would revise
the earned income requirement for a
commercial vessel permit for king or
Spanish mackerel, establish a
moratorium on the issuance of
commercial vessel permits for king
mackerel, extend the management area
for cobia to include the exclusive
economic zone (EEZ) off the states of
Virginia through New York, specify
allowable gear in the fisheries for
coastal migratory pelagic resources,
allow the retention of up to five cut-
off king mackerel in excess of an
applicable commercial trip limit, and
add to the management measures that
may be established or modified by the
FMP's framework procedure. In
addition, NMFS proposes to clarify that
a Federal vessel permit is not required
for the use of a sea bass pot north of
Cape Hatteras, NC; clarify what
constitutes commercial fishing for the
purpose of obtaining a commercial
vessel permit; revise the definition of
"charter vessel" to conform to a new
definition of charter fishing in theMagnuson-Stevens Fishery
Conservation and Management Act
(Magnuson-Stevens Act); make explicit
the authority of NMFS to reopen a
fishery that has been closed
prematurely, i.e., prior to a quota
having been reached; and correct
references in the codified text.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/23/97	62 FR 33800
NPRM Comment Period End	08/07/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Andrew J. Kemmerer,
Regional Administrator, Southeast
Region, NMFS, Department of
Commerce, National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration, 9721
Executive Center Drive N., St.
Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301**RIN:** 0648-AG25**541. AMENDMENT 8 TO THE FISHERY
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE
SNAPPER-GROUPER FISHERY OF
THE SOUTH ATLANTIC****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory.
Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published
within 30 days of end of NPRM
comment period.**Abstract:** Amendment 8 would limit
future participation in the snapper
grouper fishery based on a vessel's
landings during the 1993-1996 period.
Initial eligibility for participation in the
snapper grouper fishery would be
limited to owners of boats/vessels that:
(1) can demonstrate any landings of
species in the snapper grouper
management unit in 1993, 1994, 1995,
or 1996 (as of 8/20/96) and (2) had a
valid snapper grouper permit between
2/11/96 and 2/11/97. Vessels landing at
least 1,000 pounds of species in the
snapper grouper management unit in
any of these years would receive a
transferable permit. All other vessels
would receive a non-transferable permit
and are limited to a 225-pound trip
limit. In addition, fishermen will be
allowed to use one bait net up to 50

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feet long by 10 feet high with a stretched mesh of 1.5" or smaller. A vessel will be allowed one bait net and may use cast nets for catching bait. Vessels will be allowed to possess species within the snapper-grouper management unit (whether whole or fillets) caught in Bahamian waters in accordance with Bahamian law provided the vessel is in transit from the Bahamas and valid Bahamian fishing and cruising permits are onboard.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/12/98	63 FR 1813
NPRM Comment	02/26/98	
Period End		
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AG27

542. AMENDMENT 9 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SHRIMP FISHERY OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of the comment period.

Abstract: Amendment 9 would require, with limited exceptions, the use of certified bycatch reduction devices (BRDs) in shrimp trawls in the exclusive economic zone in the Gulf of Mexico shoreward of the 100-fathom (183-m) depth contour west of 85 degree 30W. long.; set the bycatch reduction criterion for the certification of BRDs; and establish a fishery management plan framework procedure for modifying the bycatch reduction criterion, for establishing and modifying the BRD testing protocol and its specification, and for certifying and decertifying BRDs.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/02/97	62 FR 35774
NPRM Comment	08/18/97	
Period End		
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AH52

543. AMENDMENT 39 TO THE FMP FOR GROUND FISH FISHERY OF BSAI, AMENDMENT 41 TO THE FMP FOR GROUND FISH OF THE GOA AND AMENDMENT 5 TO THE FMP FOR COMMERCIAL KING & TANNER CRAB FISHERIES OF THE BSAI

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of the comment period on the proposed rule.

Abstract: This rule would implement (1) a License Limitation Program intended to halt the increase in fishing vessels and limit their fishing capacity and (2) a multi-species Community Development Quota program for certain western Alaska communities.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/15/97	62 FR 43866
NPRM Comment	09/29/97	
Period End		
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AH65

544. PLAN AMENDMENT TO FMP FOR SHARKS OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN THAT WOULD LIMIT ENTRY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 678

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Amendment allows for permit moratorium/limited entry into the Commercial Shark Fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/20/96	61 FR 68202
NPRM Comment	02/18/97	
Period End		
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AH78

545. CONSOLIDATION OF ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 971 et seq; 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 902; 50 CFR 285; 50 CFR 630; 50 CFR 644; 50 CFR 678

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Consolidates existing Atlantic highly migratory species regulations to enhance usability and reduce regulatory text.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/06/96	61 FR 57361
NPRM Comment	12/23/96	
Period End		
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

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Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Gary Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AI28

546. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH LIMITS FOR THE ATLANTIC AND GULF OF MEXICO GROUPS OF KING AND SPANISH MACKEREL FOR THE 1997-98 FISHING YEAR

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment, prepared under the framework rulemaking procedure of the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic (FMP), would amend the regulations implementing the FMP to establish the total allowable catch limits and associated measures (e.g., trip and bag limits) for Atlantic and Gulf groups of king and Spanish mackerel for the 1997-98 fishing year.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/14/97	62 FR 53278
NPRM Comment Period End	10/29/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AJ12

547. AMENDMENT 11 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE REEF FISH RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO - RESUBMITTED MEASURE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council will revise a measure of Amendment 11 previously disapproved by the National Marine Fisheries Service. The revised and resubmitted measure would change the definition for optimum yield for each management species.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/31/97	62 FR 68246
NPRM Comment Period End	03/02/98	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Additional Information: This action was part of RIN 0648-AG29. It was split from this RIN and assigned a new RIN to better allow display of the full information required for each separate regulatory action.

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AJ16

548. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO RESTRICT FREQUENCY OF LIMITED ENTRY PERMIT TRANSFERS AND REQUIRE THE SORTING OF CATCH BY SPECIES AND THE RETENTION OF FISH TICKETS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This rule would restrict the frequency of limited entry permit transfers to once every 12 months, with transfers taking effect on the first day of a cumulative landings limit period. This rule would also require the sorting of all groundfish species with trip limits, size limits, quotas, or harvest guidelines at the point of landing, and the retention of landings receipts on board the vessel that has made those landings. This proposed rule is intended to constrain the introduction of new fishing effort into the Pacific Coast groundfish fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/29/97	62 FR 67610
NPRM Comment Period End	02/12/98	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700 Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AJ20

549. CONSOLIDATION OF THE RULES FOR SPINY LOBSTER FISHERY OF THE GULF OF MEXICO AND SOUTH ATLANTIC AND STONE CRAB FISHERY OF THE GULF OF MEXICO

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will eliminate existing text in the CFR.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: NMFS had proposed to withdraw the Fishery Management Plans for Spiny Lobster and Stone Crab (FMPs). The regulations implementing these FMPs were not included in the consolidated regulations for Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf, and South Atlantic

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at 50 CFR part 622. Recently, NMFS withdrew the proposed rules that would have withdrawn the FMPs. This final rule will incorporate the rules implementing these FMPs in the consolidated regulations without substantive change.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive, N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301
Fax: 813 570-5300

RIN: 0648-AJ28

550. GUIDELINES FOR THE DESCRIPTION, IDENTIFICATION, CONSERVATION, AND ENHANCEMENT OF ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, April 11, 1997.

Abstract: Guidelines to assist Fishery Management Councils in the description and identification of essential fish habitat (EFH), including adverse impacts on EFH, and in the consideration of actions to conserve and enhance EFH, in fishery management plans.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/08/96	61 FR 57843
ANPRM Comment Period End	12/09/96	
Second ANPRM	01/09/97	62 FR 1306
Second ANPRM Comment Period End	02/12/97	
NPRM	04/23/97	62 FR 19723
NPRM Comment Period End	07/08/97	
Interim Final Rule	12/19/97	62 FR 66531
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: James P. Burgess, Director, Office of Habitat Conservation, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282
Phone: 301 713-2325
Fax: 301 713-1043
Email: james.burgess@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AJ30

551. MAGNUSON-STEVENS ACT PROVISIONS; NATIONAL STANDARDS GUIDELINES

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS revises guidelines to national standards 1, 2, 4, and 5, and adds new national standards 8, 9, and 10, as required by the Sustainable Fisheries Act. The national standards apply to fishery management plans and amendments developed by the Regional Fishery Management Councils under authority of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/04/97	62 FR 41907
NPRM Comment Period End	01/28/98	62 FR 67608
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ58

552. PROPOSED RULE TO IMPLEMENT OBSERVER PROVISIONS REQUIRED BY THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT AS AMENDED OCTOBER 11, 1996

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory.

Abstract: NMFS is proposing regulations that pertain to fishery observers and the vessels that carry them. The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended October 11, 1996, requires that the Secretary of Commerce establish health and safety guidelines and regulations for fishing vessels that carry observers. Vessel owners and operators would be required to comply with the guidelines, regulations, and conditions. The intent of the regulation is to ensure the health and safety of observers. Its impact will be to increase compliance with existing safety regulations and to improve the general working conditions for observers. This rule would implement statutory requirements and is not controversial.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/22/97	62 FR 49463
NPRM Comment Period End	10/22/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: William Bellows, Plan Reviewer, Domestic Fisheries Division, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2344
Fax: 301 713-0596

RIN: 0648-AJ76

553. FINAL DEFINITION OF THE ZERO MORTALITY RATE GOAL

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 229

Legal Deadline: None

NMFS must initiate a report to Congress on fisheries progress towards the Zero Mortality Rate Goal by April 30, 1997.

Abstract: The Marine Mammal Protection Act, as amended in 1994, requires that commercial fisheries reduce incidental serious injury and mortality of marine mammals to insignificant levels approaching a zero mortality and serious injury rate by April 30, 2001. This interim final rule provides the regulatory definition of the Zero Mortality Rate Goal as part of the

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new management regime for the unintentional taking of marine mammals incidental to commercial fishing operators.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/15/95	60 FR 31666
NPRM Comment Period End	09/14/95	
Interim Final Rule	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Cathy Eisele, Fishery Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Hwy., Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2322
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: cathy.eisele@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AJ84

554. ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES: TAKE OF THREATENED SOUTHERN OREGON/NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST EVOLUTIONARILY SIGNIFICANT UNIT (ESU) COHO SALMON

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1531 et seq to 16 USC 1543 et seq subpart B Sec 227.12; 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 227

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: On May 6, 1997, NMFS listed the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast ESU of Coho Salmon as threatened. NMFS is now issuing protective regulations under section 4(d) of the ESA which will apply section 9(a) prohibitions to all activities within this ESU unless: in compliance with section 10 or other exemptions under the ESA; in accordance with a timely application for a permit for scientific purposes to enhance propagation or survival of the species; or within carefully circumscribed harvest hatchery, research and monitoring, or habitat restoration activity exceptions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/18/97	62 FR 38479
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fisheries Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376

Email: joe.blum@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AJ91

555. ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES CONVENTION ACT OF 1984; CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 2431 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 300

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Resolutions and measures adopted by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) since the framework regulations were adopted are announced, and public comment invited, in the Federal Register by the Department of State each year following the Commission meeting. Following this comment period, a final regulatory notice is published in the Federal Register by the Department of Commerce (NMFS).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Robin Tuttle, Foreign Affairs Officer, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-2282

RIN: 0648-AJ94

556. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE REGIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCILS

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

Unfunded Mandates: This action may affect State, local or tribal governments.

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Reorganizes text contained in section 600.215 (Appointments) into a more logical order and makes editorial changes for readability. It also reemphasizes the requirement for each RFMC constituent state governor, tribal indian government, and each Council nominee to comply with the March 15 nomination deadline.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	07/01/97	62 FR 3546
NPRM Comment Period End	07/31/97	
NPRM Comment Period Extension	08/05/97	62 FR 42093
Final Action Appoint Regional Fishery Mgmt Council Members (Tribal)	09/10/97	62 FR 47584
NPRM Fishery Mgmt Council Members (Obligatory and at-large)	01/30/98	63 FR 4618
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: Gary Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ95

557. FINAL RULE TO IMPLEMENT FRAMEWORK ADJUSTMENT 24 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This framework would: (1) allow vessels to carry-over up to 10 days of unused multispecies days-at-sea (DAS) into the next fishing year; (2) exempt multispecies vessels from DAS when fishing in the NAFO regulated area; and (3) implement a lay-over requirement for vessels exceeding the cod trip limit.

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Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/12/97	62 FR 60676
NPRM Comment Period End	12/10/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9300

RIN: 0648-AJ96

558. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ALLOW RETENTION OF UNDERSIZED HALIBUT IN CDQ FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 773c

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 300

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment would allow undersized halibut caught in CDQ halibut fisheries to be retained in IPHC Area 4E.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/09/98	63 FR 11401
NPRM Comment Period End	03/24/98	
Final Action	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK06

559. ADJUSTMENT OF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS CRUSTACEAN FISHERIES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulation will adjust the management measures for the crustacean fisheries to include within Permit Area 3 (American Samoa and Guam the waters off the exclusive economic zone off the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, allow VMS-lobster vessels to transit the Crustaceans Permit Area 1 VMS Subarea while returning to port following closure of the fishery, move the deadline from March 31 to February 28 by which NMFS must announce the next lobster season's harvest guideline, and add the month of May to the current closed season (June through August) for the lobster fishery in Federal waters (Crustaceans Permit Area 2) around the main Hawaiian Islands.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwestern Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AK22

560. NORTHERN ANCHOVY FISHERY; QUOTAS FOR THE 1998-99 FISHING YEAR (ANNUAL SPECIFICATIONS)

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, August 1, 1998.

Abstract: This final rule would implement harvest quotas for the northern anchovy fishery for the 1998-99 season. These specifications would include quotas for the reduction and non-reduction fisheries and a total allowable level of foreign fishing. These harvest quotas are issued in accordance

with procedures for annual specifications under the Northern Anchovy Fishery Management Plan as recommended by the Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90804-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AK24

561. 1998-1999 MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR COMMERCIAL, RECREATIONAL, AND TREATY INDIAN SALMON FISHERIES OFF THE COASTS OF WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND CALIFORNIA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Annual management measures for the 1998-99 fishing year would specify allowable ocean harvest levels (including quotas), allocations, management boundaries and zones, minimum size limits, gear definitions, seasons, selective fisheries, and in-season notice procedures.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. I, Seattle, WA 98115-0070
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AK25

DOC—NOAA

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562. ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES; REGULATIONS CONSOLIDATION**Priority:** Info./Admin./Other**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 44 USC 3501 et seq; 16 USC 1531 et seq; 16 USC 742a et seq; 31 USC 9701 Act of August 31, 1951, 65 Stat. 290; 16 USC 1361 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 217; 50 CFR 220; 50 CFR 221; 50 CFR 222; 50 CFR 223; 50 CFR 225; 50 CFR 226; 50 CFR 227**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This final rule consolidates and reorganizes existing regulations regarding implementation of the Endangered Species Act. The action is part of the President's Regulatory Reinvention Initiative.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Therese Conant, Fishery Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-1401

Fax: 301 713-0376

RIN: 0648-AK34**563. FINAL RULE TO MODIFY THE REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING THE NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** This rule would allow an exempted gillnet fishery for little tunny. The seasonal fishing would extend from September 1 through October 31 in a portion of the Southern New England Regulated Mesh Area.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/00/98	
Final Action Effective	09/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9300**RIN:** 0648-AK35**564. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO REVISE THE RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUND FISH FISHERIES OF THE EEZ OFF OF ALASKA FOR 1998****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory.

Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: Revise the recordkeeping and reporting requirements for the 1998 fishing year. The revision includes some definition changes and a requirement for motherships operating in the EEZ to submit directly to ADF&G fish tickets on behalf of individual catcher vessels.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/19/98	63 FR 8389
NPRM Comment Period End	03/06/98	
Final Action	05/00/98	
Final Action Effective	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK36**565. • PROPOSED HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES PROCESS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq; 16 USC 971 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 630**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** NMFS proposes to revise the administrative procedures it follows to prepare and issue highly migratory species (HMS) management plans (FMPs), FMP amendments and implementing regulations for the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea in response to recent amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management Act.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/18/97	62 FR 48990
NPRM Comment Period End	10/15/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334**RIN:** 0648-AK40**566. • ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES: PROPOSED THREATENED STATUS AND DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT FOR WEST COAST SOCKEYE SALMON****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1531 to 1543; 16 USC 1361 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 226; 50 CFR 227**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** NMFS has completed a comprehensive review of west coast sockeye salmon in Washington, Oregon and California and has identified 6 evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) within this range. NMFS is now fashioning a proposed rule to list one ESU as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. NMFS is also proposing critical habitat which will encompass the species current freshwater and estuarine range.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/10/98	63 FR 11749
NPRM Comment Period End	06/08/98	
Final Action	03/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

DOC—NOAA

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Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: joe.blum@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AK52

567. • ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES: PROPOSED ENDANGERED STATUS AND DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT FOR COASTWIDE CHUM SALMON

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1531 to 1543; 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 226; 50 CFR 227

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS has completed a comprehensive status review for chum salmon populations in Washington, Oregon and California and has identified evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) within the range. NMFS is now issuing a proposed rule to list appropriate ESUs under the Endangered Species Act. NMFS is also proposing critical habitat for ESUs proposed for listing.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/10/98	63 FR 11773
NPRM Comment Period End	06/08/98	
Final Action	03/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: joe.blum@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AK53

568. • TAKE OF THREATENED CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST, SOUTH CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST, AND SNAKE RIVER BASIN ESUS OF STEELHEAD SALMON UNDER THE ESA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1531 to 1543; 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 227

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS is issuing protective regulations for 3 Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) of West Coast Steelhead located in California (Central California Coast and South-Central California Coast) and Idaho, Washington and Oregon (Snake River Basin) listed as threatened under the ESA. These regulations will apply section 9(a) prohibitions with certain exceptions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	
Interim Final Rule Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:

Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401

RIN: 0648-AK54

569. • EXTENSION FOR 6 YEARS OF A MORATORIUM ON FISHING IN SEAMOUNT GROUND FISH FISHERY OF WESTERN PACIFIC REGION TO PROMOTE REBUILDING OF STOCKS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulation will extend through August 2004 a moratorium on fishing for seamount groundfish from the Hancock Seamount in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. This is designed to continue the protection of armourhead, an overfished stock.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	03/26/98	63 FR 14675
NPRM Comment Period End	05/11/98	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AK59

570. • ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA (ABT) FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 971 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 285

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NMFS issues an interim final rule to allow the retention, possession, and landing of Atlantic bluefin tunas (ABTs) in which an archival tag has been implanted. NMFS exempts the harvest of fish with archival tags from applicable release requirements.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	01/07/98	63 FR 667
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AK63

571. • FINAL RULE TO IMPLEMENT FRAMEWORK ADJUSTMENT 25 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES FISHERY FOR FISHING YEAR 1998

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

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CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action would implement management measures to achieve the 1998 fishing mortality objectives of the FMP, as well as measures that would modify two current exempted fisheries and restrict or prohibit a new trawl gear design. The annual framework adjustment proposes to implement the 1998 fishing year target total allowable catch levels for the primary stocks of groundfish and the management measures needed to ensure that these TACs are not exceeded.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9300

RIN: 0648-AK77**572. • 1998 HARVEST GUIDELINE FOR NORTHWESTERN HAWAIIAN ISLANDS LOBSTER FISHING****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This action announces the 1998 harvest guidelines for the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands crustacean fishery. The guideline is calculated according to the formula in Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Crustacean Fisheries of the Western Pacific.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 W.

Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AK85**573. • INTERIM FINAL RULE TO ADJUST THE GULF OF MEXICO RED SNAPPER TAC AND ASSOCIATED MANAGEMENT MEASURES IN THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE REEF FISH RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: This controversial interim rule is expected to adjust the Gulf of Mexico red snapper total allowable catch (TAC), currently 9.12 million pounds, to 6.0 million pounds. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council, which manages red snapper under the Fishery Management Plan for the Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico, voted for continuation of the 9.12-million-pound TAC and reduction of the five-fish recreational bag limit to zero for headboat and charter vessel captain and crew. This interim rule to reduce the TAC is needed at this time to prevent overfishing, and thereby comply with the FMP's rebuilding schedule and applicable provisions and time frames of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The interim rule also is expected to establish a decrease in the bag limit (currently 5-fish/person), possibly including a zero bag limit for headboat and charter vessel captain and crew. These measures are expected to slow the fishing mortality rate, and thereby provide a controlled rate of harvest that can be more effectively monitored to prevent overfishing.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432

Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK98**574. • INTERIM FINAL RULE TO EXPAND THE OCULINA HAPC BY AN ADDITIONAL 2 MILES ON ALL SIDES TO INCLUDE EXISTING HAPC RESTRICTIONS IN THE SNAPPER-GROUPER FISHERY OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The proposed measure would expand the Oculina HAPC by an additional 2 miles on all sides with the intent to include existing HAPC restrictions. The purpose of this action is to protect the Oculina HAPC until proposed measures in the Comprehensive Habitat Amendment are approved and implemented.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AK99**575. • IFR TO IMPLEMENT MARCH-APRIL BAG LIMIT AND COMMERCIAL CATCH RESTRICTIONS FOR RED PORGY, GAG, BLACK GROUPER, AND GREATER AMBERJACK FOR THE SNAPPER-GROUPER-FISHERY OF THE S. ATLANTIC****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622**Legal Deadline:** None

Abstract: The snapper grouper interim rule would address overfishing in the snapper grouper fishery management unit. Proposed management actions include: (1) increase the red porgy minimum size limit from 12 inch TL

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to 14 inch TL for both recreational and commercial fishermen, establish a recreational bag limit of 5 red porgy per person per day, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during March and April, and prohibit purchase and sale during March and April; (2) establish measures for greater amberjack that will: reduce the recreational bag limit from 3 to 1 greater amberjack per person per day, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during April throughout the EEZ, establish a 1,000 pound daily commercial trip limit, establish a quota at 63% of 1995 landings (quota = 1,169,931 pounds), begin the fishing year on May 1, prohibit sale of fish harvested under the bag limit when the season is closed, and prohibit coring; (3) increase the gag grouper minimum size limit from 20 inches TL to 24 inches TL for both recreational and commercial fishermen, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during March and April, and prohibit purchase and sale during March and April; (4) increase the black grouper minimum size limit from 20 inches to 24 inches TL for both recreational and commercial fishermen, prohibit harvest and possession in excess of the bag limit during March and April, and prohibit purchase and sale during March and April; and (5) specify that within the 5-fish aggregate grouper bag limit (which currently includes tilefish and excludes jewfish and Nassau grouper), no more than 2 fish may be gag or black grouper (individually or in combination).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Andrew J. Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AL01

576. • INTERIM FINAL RULE TO ADJUST THE GULF OF MEXICO RED SNAPPER TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH AND ASSOCIATED MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Priority: Economically Significant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1855c

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 622

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim rule, issued under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to address overfishing of the red snapper resource in the Gulf of Mexico exclusive economic zone, would reduce the total allowable catch (TAC) of red snapper from 9.12 million pounds (mp) to 6.0 MP. This rule would also reduce the bag limit for the recreational red snapper fishery from five to three fish. These measures are needed to address overfishing and rebuild the red snapper stock to 20% SPR by 2019.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Andrew Kemmerer, Regional Administrator, Southeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 9721 Executive Center Drive, North, St. Petersburg, FL 33702-2432
Phone: 813 570-5301
Fax: 813 570-5300

RIN: 0648-AL03

577. • INTERIM FINAL RULE FOR THE ATLANTIC SEA SCALLOP FISHERY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final Regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period

Abstract: This action would amend the regulations implementing the Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery Management Plan for 90 days to include a prohibition on all trawl and dredge vessels fishing for and retaining scallops in the newly defined Hudson Canyon South closed area and Virginia Beach closed area.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9300

RIN: 0648-AK68

578. CIVIL PROCEDURES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 to 1882; 16 USC 1531 to 1543; 16 USC 1361 to 1407; 16 USC 3371 to 3378; 16 USC 1431 to 1439; 16 USC 773 to 773k; 16 USC 951 to 961; 16 USC 1021 to 1032; 16 USC 3631 to 3644; 42 USC 9101 et seq; 30 USC 1401 et seq; 16 USC 971 to 971i; 16 USC 781 et seq; 16 USC 972 to 972b; 16 USC 916 to 916l; ...

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 904

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim final rule amends NOAA's regulations to make them consistent with a Federal District Court ruling on the Agency's consideration of a respondent's ability to pay when assessing a civil penalty. The amendment removed a provision which placed the burden on the respondent to raise and prove inability to pay an assessed penalty when the statute involved requires NOAA to take ability to pay into account. A subsequent amendment to the statute in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act will require changes to the interim final rule.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	11/02/93	58 FR 58484
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Additional Information: This rule remains in interim final status. The final rule will reflect changes necessitated by recent statutory

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amendments enacted as part of the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act.

Agency Contact: Hugh Schratwieser, Attorney Adviser, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of the Assistant General Counsel for Enforcement and Litigation (GCEL), 8484 Georgia Ave. 4th Fl, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 427-2202

RIN: 0648-AF96

579. PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR TUNA VESSEL OPERATORS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NOAA has established a system of performance standards for operators of U.S.-flag tuna purse seine fishing vessels that catch yellowfin tuna associated with marine mammals in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/01/89	54 FR 46086
NPRM Comment Period End	12/01/89	
Interim Final Rule	05/17/90	55 FR 20458
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	09/03/90	
Final Action	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

Phone: 310 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AD03

580. TAKING AND IMPORTING OF MARINE MAMMALS; DOLPHIN MORTALITY LIMITS DURING PURSE SEINE SETS ON MARINE MAMMALS IN THE EASTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216.24

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This interim final rule will amend the current performance standards in the MMPA regulations to ensure that U.S. vessels can be legally prevented from making sets on tuna associated with dolphins in the eastern tropical Pacific Ocean once the vessels' dolphin mortality limit is reached. This rule also implements portions of the International Dolphin Conservation Act of 1992.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	05/19/93	58 FR 29127
Final Action	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213

Phone: 310 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AF07

581. TAKE OF MARINE MAMMALS BY THE U.S. NAVY INCIDENTAL TO MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC OF THE UNITED STATES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The U.S. Navy has petitioned NMFS for regulations that would authorize a small take of marine mammals incidental to ship shock trials in oceanic waters offshore Florida or Virginia. Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, NMFS is allowed to authorize these takings if certain findings are made and regulations are issued that include requirements for monitoring and reporting.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	06/14/96	61 FR 30212
ANPRM Comment Period End	07/15/96	
NPRM	08/02/96	61 FR 40377
NPRM Comment Period End	09/17/96	
Final Action	07/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Kenneth Hollingshead, Fishery Biologist, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-2055

RIN: 0648-AG55

582. DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT; CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST AND SOUTHERN OREGON/NORTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST COHO SALMON

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1533

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory, October 31, 1997.

Critical habitat designation for central California coast coho salmon is due one year after the listing, or 10/31/97.

Critical habitat designation for Southern Oregon/Northern (cont)

Abstract: NMFS proposed to designate critical habitat for two Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) of coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973. Critical habitat for the Central California Coast ESU encompasses accessible reaches of all rivers (including estuarine areas and tributaries) between Punta Gorda and the San Lorenzo River (inclusive) in California. Also included are two rivers entering San Francisco Bay: Mill Valley Creek and Corte Madera Creek. Critical habitat for the Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast ESU encompasses accessible reaches of all rivers (including estuarine areas and tributaries) between the Mattole River in California and the Elk River in Oregon, inclusive.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/25/97	62 FR 62741
Final Action	11/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Additional Information: LEGAL

DEADLINE CONT: California coast coho salmon is due one year after the listing, or 5/6/98.

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fisheries Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Protected

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Resources, 1315 East-West Highway,
F/PR3, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401

RIN: 0648-AG56

583. TAKING AND IMPORTING OF MARINE MAMMALS: PROPOSED RULE PROHIBITING U.S. CITIZENS FROM ENCIRCLING MARINE MAMMALS DURING TUNA FISHING OPERATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216.24

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory.
Final, Statutory, March 1, 1994.

Abstract: This rule proposes implementation of section 307 (a)(2) of the International Dolphin Conservation Act, which makes it unlawful for any person or vessel that is subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, intentionally to set a purse seine net or to encircle any marine mammal during any tuna fishing operation, with certain exceptions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/12/94	59 FR 51552
NPRM Comment Period End	11/14/94	
Interim Final Rule	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hilda Diaz-Soltero, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 310 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AH04

584. FINAL RULE TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR NONLETHALLY DETERRING MARINE MAMMALS FROM ENDANGERING PERSONAL SAFETY OR DAMAGING PUBLIC OR PRIVATE PROPERTY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq
The Marine Mammal Protection Act

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory,
January 1, 1995.

Abstract: On April 30, 1994, the President signed Pub. L. 103-238, the Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 1994. One part of this law implemented a new section 101(a)(4) to authorize the nonlethal harassment takings by citizens of the United States to deter marine mammals from: (1) Damaging commercial fishing gear or catch; (2) damaging private property; (3) endangering public safety; or (4) damaging public property. The amendments require a list of guidelines for use in safely deterring marine mammals and provide for prohibiting certain deterrent measures that may have a significant adverse impact on marine mammals.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/05/95	60 FR 22345
NPRM Comment Period End	07/05/95	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth R. Hollingshead, Fishery Biologist, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Protected Resources, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226
Phone: 301 713-2055

RIN: 0648-AH19

585. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INVOLVING LEVEL B HARASSMENT

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1151 et seq
Fur Seal Act; 16 USC 1631 et seq
Marine Mammal Protection Act

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory,
August 30, 1994.

Abstract: This final rule is required by the 1994 amendments to the Marine Mammal Protection Act. These regulations establish a general authorization for bona fide scientific research on non-endangered and non-threatened marine mammals that may result in harassment with only the potential to disturb. Inclusion under the general authorization is achieved by letter of intent to the National Marine Fisheries Service and a letter of confirmation from the Service.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	10/03/94	59 FR 50372
Interim Final Rule Comment Period End	11/17/94	
Final Action	05/00/98	
Final Action Effective	06/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State,
Federal

Agency Contact: Ruth Johnson, Marine Resources Management Specialist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226

Phone: 301 713-2289

RIN: 0648-AH20

586. NORTH ATLANTIC RIGHT WHALE PROTECTION; INTERIM FINAL RULE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 742 et seq;
16 USC 1361 et seq; 16 USC 1531 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 222; 50 CFR 217

Legal Deadline: Final, Judicial,
February 7, 1997.

This deadline is motivated by the Strahan V. Linnon litigation.

Abstract: Disturbance has been identified in the Final Recovery Plan for the Northern Right Whale (Recovery Plan) as among the principal human-induced factors impeding right whale recovery. Accordingly, as recommended in the Recovery Plan, NMFS is establishing a minimum approach distance to northern right whales in an attempt to reduce the current level of disturbance and potential for vessel interaction and injury. Specifically, this interim final rule will prohibit approaches within 500 yards (460m) of a right whale, whether by vessel, aircraft or other means. The rule will require right whale avoidance measures if a vessel or aircraft is within the restricted area. Generally, vessels are required to immediately depart from the whale. Exceptions are provided for emergency situations, where certain authorizations are provided, for aircraft operations (unless the aircraft is conducting whale watch activities), for certain right whale disentanglement/rescue efforts and

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investigations, and for a vessel restricted in its ability to maneuver and unable to comply with the right whale avoidance measures.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	12/27/94	59 FR 66513
ANPRM Comment Period End	02/27/95	
NPRM	08/07/96	61 FR 41116
NPRM Comment Period End	11/07/96	
Interim Final Rule	02/13/97	62 FR 6729
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Margot Bohan, Marine Mammal Division, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2322

RIN: 0648-AH47

587. DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT; GREEN AND HAWKSBILL SEA TURTLE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1533

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 226

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory, November 7, 1997. Final, Statutory, December 19, 1998.

Petition to designate critical habitat was received 11/07/96. According to regulations, we have 1-year to propose rulemaking.

Abstract: NOAA proposes to designate critical habitat for the threatened green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and endangered hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA). The geographic area proposed for critical habitat designation comprises the coastal waters surrounding the islands of Mona, Monito, and the Culebra archipelago, from the Mean High Water line seaward to 3 nautical miles (nm). This designation provides explicit notice to Federal agencies and the public that these areas and features are vital to the conservation of the species.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/19/97	62 FR 66584

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	02/17/98	
Final Action	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Barbara Schroeder, National Sea Turtle Coordinator, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-1401

Fax: 301 713-0376

RIN: 0648-AH88

588. TAKING OF MARINE MAMMALS INCIDENTAL TO COMMERCIAL FISHING OPERATIONS; TAKE REDUCTION PLAN REGULATIONS AND EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1361 et seq The Marine Mammal Protection Act

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 229

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Marine Mammal Protection Act amendments of 1994 (Public Law 103-238) provide for the development and implementation of take reduction plans to assist in the recovery or prevent the depletion of strategic marine mammal stocks. These take reduction plans shall be developed by take reduction teams, comprised of representatives of Federal, state, and other government agencies, as well as other non-governmental organizations. In some cases, take reduction plans may recommend regulatory measures for effective implementation. NMFS must publish proposed regulations to implement such plans for public review and comment during a period not to exceed 90 days.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	07/22/97	62 FR 39157
Interim Final Rule Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan	07/22/97	62 FR 39157
NPRM Gulf of Maine Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan	08/13/97	62 FR 43302
NPRM	08/15/97	62 FR 43302

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action Pacific Offshore Cetacean Take Reduction Plan	10/03/97	62 FR 51805
NPRM Comment Period End	10/14/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Vicki Cornish, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2322
Fax: 301 713-0376

Donna Wieting, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2322
Fax: 301 713-0376

RIN: 0648-AI84

589. JOINT DRAFT POLICY FOR SAFE HARBOR AND CANDIDATE SPECIES CONSERVATION (CSC) AGREEMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1531 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 222

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The National Marine Fisheries Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service will be jointly proposing these policies, which would allow non-federal landowners to obtain ESA section 10(a)(1)(A) enhancement of survival permits associated with a Safe Harbor or CSC Agreements. The Agreements would be between NMFS and/or FWS and non-Federal landowners to provide a net conservation benefit to endangered, threatened, candidate, proposed, and other unlisted species. After terms of the Agreement are completed, the enrolled lands could be returned to the baseline or agreed upon conditions through incidental taking authorized in the permit. These enhancement permits will provide non-Federal landowners, who undertake voluntary conservation activities agreed to in the agreements,

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assurances that future land use will not be restricted as a result of their conservation efforts. The enhancement of survival permits would authorize the incidental taking in performing management actions to achieve the net conservation benefit as well as incidental take authorized to return the land to target conditions upon the completion of all the management action. Participating landowners will derive regulatory certainty, because the ESA will not prohibit them from returning their land to original or agreed upon conditions once the Agreement is fulfilled. The Agreements encourage beneficial land-use, which helps imperiled species. The FWS have their own permit regulations and have made a similar request under EO12866, their request number is RIN 108-AD95.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/12/97	62 FR 113
NPRM Comment Period End	08/11/97	
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions, Organizations

Government Levels Affected: State, Local, Tribal, Federal

Agency Contact: Margaret Lorenz, ESA Policy Coordinator, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
RIN: 0648-AJ54

590. • DEFINITION OF HARM UNDER THE ESA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1531 to 1543

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 227

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This proposed rule defines the term "Harm" which is contained in the Endangered Species Act. The purpose of this rulemaking is to help resolve uncertainty concerning the type of harm that may result in a take of a listed species under the ESA.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kellie Carter, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: kellie.f.carter@noaa.gov
RIN: 0648-AK55

591. • SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION; SHRIMP TRAWLING REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1531 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 222; 50 CFR 223

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The interim final rule allows the use of Soft Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in the Southeastern and Gulf of Mexico Shrimp fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	04/00/98	
Final Action	10/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Therese Conant, Fisheries Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: therese.conant@noaa.gov
RIN: 0648-AK66

NATIONAL OCEAN SURVEY/OFFICE OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**592. THUNDER BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1431 to 1445

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 922

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These regulations will protect the ecological, recreational, and esthetic resources of the waters surrounding Thunder Bay if the area is designated as a national marine sanctuary.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/23/97	62 FR 33768
NPRM Comment Period End	09/22/97	
Final Action	12/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stephanie R. Thornton, Chief, Sanctuaries and Reserve Division, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway (N/ORM2), Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-3155
RIN: 0648-AE41

593. ALLOWANCE OF SMALL-SCALE NON-INTRUSIVE JADE COLLECTING IN MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1434(a)(5)

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 944

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The National Ocean Service, Sanctuaries and Reserve Division (SRD) is issuing an ANPRM to inform the public that it is considering allowing small-scale, non-intrusive jade collecting in the MBNMS, and to invite written comments, advice, and recommendations. There has been public interest in allowing jade collection in the MBNMS and this action will respond to and address those interests. If SRD determines to amend the regulations, it will issue a proposed rule with an additional 45-day comment period.

This action is considered not significant because the advance notice of proposed rulemaking simply presents an issue and course of action under consideration by SRD and requests comments from the public. This action will ensure that SRD takes into account all views on this issue. This action does not have an annual effect on the economy of \$100 million or more, nor does it adversely effect in a material way the economy, environment, public health or safety.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	08/09/95	60 FR 40540
ANPRM Comment Period End	09/08/95	

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Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/13/97	62 FR 32246
NPRM Comment Period End	08/12/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Elizabeth Moore, Sanctuaries and Reserves Office, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway (N/ORM2), Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-3145
RIN: 0648-AI06

594. • PROHIBITING ANCHORING BY VESSELS 50 METERS OR GREATER IN LENGTH ON TORTUGAS BANK WITHIN THE FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1431 et seq

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 922

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is planning to amend the regulations for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to prohibit anchoring by vessels 50 meters or greater in registered length on Tortugas Bank. The preamble to this rule contains an environmental assessment for this proposed action. The intent of this rule is to protect the coral reef at Tortugas Bank.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	02/11/98	63 FR 6883
NPRM Comment Period End	03/13/98	
Final Action	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Billy Causey, Superintendent, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, Department of

Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 500368, Marathon, FL 33050
Phone: 305 743-2437

RIN: 0648-AK45

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

595. LICENSING OF PRIVATE COMMERCIAL REMOTE-SENSING SATELLITE SYSTEMS

Priority: Other Significant

Legal Authority: 15 USC 5601 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 960.1 et seq

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The proposed regulations would update the 1987 regulations to reflect the above-described intervening events and information gathered through the public process, as well as the experience gained during recent licensing procedures. The intent of the proposed regulations would be to help promote the development of the commercial remote-sensing industry by keeping Government oversight to the minimum necessary to ensure protection of U.S. national security and foreign policy interests and by making that role predictable and transparent to the affected applicants and licensees. An underlying premise is that the long-term national security and foreign policy interests of the United States are best served by helping the U.S. industry to lead this emerging market.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	12/04/95	60 FR 62054
Notice of Public Meeting	05/14/96	61 FR 24480
NPRM	11/03/97	62 FR 59317
NPRM Comment Period End	04/02/98	62 FR 65384
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Charles Wooldridge, Licensing Coordinator, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration, NOAA/NESDIS, Washington, DC 20233
Phone: 301 713-2024
Fax: 301 713-2032

RIN: 0648-AC64

596. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REGARDING USE OF THE NOAA-BASED DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 15 USC 313; 49 USC 44720; 15 USC 1525; 5 USC 552; 7 USC 4506

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 911

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Following analysis of information received at a December 1996 public meeting on space-based data collection systems, NOAA has developed a new system use proposal for the Argos Data Collection System. This new system-use policy will be integrated into current regulations which govern the use of NOAA's GOES Data Collection System. By codifying existing practice, as well as the new system-use policy, NOAA is making the process by which it administers its space-based data collection systems more transparent to U.S. users.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	09/09/97	62 FR 47388
NPRM Comment Period End	11/10/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: Dane Clark, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NESDIS/Direct Services Division, Federal Building 4, Room 0158, 4401 Suitland Road, Suitland, MD 20746
Phone: 301 457-5678
Email: satinfo@nesdis.noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AK04

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Long-Term Actions

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICE**597. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO
IMPLEMENT PERMIT, REPORTING,
AND RECORDKEEPING
REQUIREMENTS FOR PROCESSING
VESSELS OVER 125 FEET AND THEIR
CATCHER VESSELS: PACIFIC COAST
GROUND FISH**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/19/92	57 FR 54552
NPRM Comment Period End	12/21/92	
NPRM	10/00/99	
NPRM Comment Period End	12/00/99	
Final Action	01/00/00	
Final Action Effective	02/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: Federal

Agency Contact: William Stelle
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AE01

**598. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR
DOMESTIC FISHERIES—STANDARD
DEFINITIONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 600

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
UndeterminedAgency Contact: Richard H. Schaefer
Phone: 301 427-2014
Fax: 301 427-2313

Phone: 301 713-2339

RIN: 0648-AG46

**599. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO
IMPOSE RESTRICTIONS ON FISHING
BLACK ROCKFISH OFF OREGON**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	04/00/99	

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	06/00/99	
Final Action	07/00/99	
Final Action Effective	08/00/99	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
UndeterminedAgency Contact: William Stelle
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AG81

**600. AMENDMENT 7 TO THE FISHERY
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR AMERICAN
LOBSTER**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 649

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
UndeterminedAgency Contact: Dr. Andrew A.
Rosenberg
Phone: 978 281-9200

RIN: 0648-AH41

**601. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO
PREVENT OVERFISHING AND
REBUILD STOCKS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ46

**602. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO
IMPLEMENT BYCATCH REDUCTION
MEASURES**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ47

**603. AMENDMENTS TO THE BSAI
AND GOA FISHERY MANAGEMENT
PLANS TO IMPLEMENT A DATA
COLLECTION PROGRAM FOR
RECREATIONAL, CHARTER, AND
COMMERCIAL FISHING**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ49

**604. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO
REVISE DEFINITIONS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ50

**605. WITHDRAWAL OF THE FISHERY
MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE
AMERICAN LOBSTER FISHERY**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 649

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected:
UndeterminedAgency Contact: Dr. Andrew A.
Rosenberg
Phone: 978 281-9200

RIN: 0648-AJ73

DOC—NOAA

Long-Term Actions

606. IMPLEMENTATION OF DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE AMERICAN LOBSTER FISHERY**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 649**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg
Phone: 978 281-9200**RIN:** 0648-AJ75**607. IMPLEMENT A FRAMEWORK TO THE FMP FOR THE NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES FISHERIES TO PROTECT WINTER FLOUNDER****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg
Phone: 978 281-9200**RIN:** 0648-AJ92**608. RULEMAKING TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH PACIFIC LOAN PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK07**609. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO DEVELOP A C. BAIRDI VESSEL INCENTIVE PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK08**610. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ALLOCATE PACIFIC HALIBUT TO THE HALIBUT SUBSISTENCE FISHERY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 300**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK16**611. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ALLOCATE PACIFIC HALIBUT TO THE CHARTER BOAT FLEET****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 300**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK17**612. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO IMPLEMENT OBSERVER REQUIREMENTS FOR PROCESSING VESSELS OVER 125 FEET: PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/19/92	57 FR 54552

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	12/21/92	
Final Action	01/00/00	
Final Action Effective	02/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Agency Contact:** William Stelle
Phone: 206 526-6150**RIN:** 0648-AK26**613. • REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH THE APPLICATION PERIOD FOR THE LICENSE LIMITATION PROGRAM****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This regulatory amendment would establish the application period for individuals to apply for vessel licenses under the License Limitation Program.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK69**614. • AMENDMENT 54 TO THE FMP FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS AREA AND AMENDMENT 54 TO THE FMP FOR GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** These FMP amendments would change sablefish use limits from

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Long-Term Actions

percentages to quota share units; add a leasing provision to allow initial recipients of quota shares to lease 10 percent of their individual fishing quota pooled across all areas, with an option to restrict this allowance to the Bering Sea; and modify plan language to allow an individual who holds an initial allocation of quota share to hire a skipper to fish the individual's IFQ on a collectively owned vessel.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK70

615. • AMENDMENT 53 TO THE FMP FOR THE GROUND FISH OF THE GULF OF ALASKA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment would implement an accounting system for total bycatch mortality of demersal shelf rockfish by requiring fishermen fishing east of 140 degrees W. longitude to bring in all demersal shelf rockfish landed during fishing activities.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK72

616. • REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO CLOSE AN AREA IN THE GULF OF ALASKA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations must be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment would create a groundfish refuge by closing a small area off Cape Edgecumbe to commercial fishing for groundfish and halibut. The closure would protect a unique habitat and protect rockfish and lingcod during critical phase of their life cycle.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK74

617. • REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO REDEFINE AN INDIVIDUAL FISHING QUOTA DEFINITION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of the end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: This regulatory amendment would redefine the definition under the IFQ Program regarding a change in a corporation or partnership to include dissolution of the corporation or partnership.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region,

NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK75

618. • OBSERVER FUNDING POLICY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Unfunded Mandates: Undetermined

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This is a national policy statement on user fees for observers of commercial fishing vessels and operations. NMFS proposes that all participants in the fishery, except where restricted by statute, should fund fishery observer programs for monitoring of regulatory requirements under Federal law, including the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the Endangered Species Act.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Gary C. Matlock, Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AL08

619. SEA TURTLE MONITORING AND CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR NONSHRIMP FISHERIES

Priority: Other Significant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 217; 50 CFR 222; 50 CFR 227

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	07/10/92	57 FR 30709
ANPRM Comment Period End	08/08/92	

Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Therese Conant
Phone: 301 713-1401

RIN: 0648-AE54

DOC—NOAA

Long-Term Actions

620. TAKING AND IMPORTING OF MARINE MAMMALS; "DOLPHIN-SAFE" TUNA LABELING**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216; 50 CFR 247**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	09/19/91	56 FR 47418
Next Action	Undetermined	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Hilda Diaz-Soltero
Phone: 310 980-4001**RIN:** 0648-AF08**621. PROPOSED RULE TO REQUIRE CERTAIN FISH FROM MEXICO TO RETAIN HEADS AND TAILS INTACT IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE ENDANGERED TOTOABA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 227**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Kenneth R. Hollingshead
Phone: 301 713-2055**RIN:** 0648-AF32**622. TAKING OF MARINE MAMMALS INCIDENTAL TO FISHERIES-RELATED RESEARCH****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 228; 50 CFR 216**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	12/09/91	56 FR 64234
ANPRM Comment Period End	01/08/92	
Next Action	Undetermined	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Federal**Agency Contact:** Kenneth Hollingshead
Phone: 301 713-2055**RIN:** 0648-AF50**623. DIRECT TAKE OF THREATENED SALMON BY NATIVE AMERICANS****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 227.21**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Joe Blum
Phone: 301 713-1401**RIN:** 0648-AG15**624. PROPOSED RULE TO AUTHORIZE LETHAL TAKINGS OF MARINE MAMMALS BY STATE AUTHORITIES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Kenneth R. Hollingshead
Phone: 301 713-2055**RIN:** 0648-AG79**625. FINAL RULE TO AMEND MARINE MAMMAL REGULATIONS TO AUTHORIZE INCIDENTAL TAKINGS OF MARINE MAMMALS BY HARASSMENT AS AUTHORIZED BY PUBLIC LAW 103-238****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 216**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	05/31/95	60 FR 28379
NPRM Comment Period End	10/16/95	60 FR 35891
Interim Final Rule	04/10/96	61 FR 15884
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses, Governmental Jurisdictions**Government Levels Affected:** State, Local, Federal**Agency Contact:** Kenneth R. Hollingshead
Phone: 301 713-2055**RIN:** 0648-AG80**626. SHRIMP VESSEL REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT****Priority:** Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 227**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/13/95	60 FR 47597
NPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Therese Conant
Phone: 301 713-1401**RIN:** 0648-AH87**627. • NORTH ATLANTIC RIGHT WHALE PROTECTION****Priority:** Other Significant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1361 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 229**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory, July 15, 1997.
Court mandated deadline.**Abstract:** NMFS by this action issues an interim final rule implementing a take reduction plan to reduce serious injury and mortality to four large whale species. Covered by the Plan are the multispecies groundfish gillnet fisheries in the Gulf of Maine; the Gulf of Maine lobster fisheries; the mid-Atlantic coastal gillnet fisheries; and the shark driftnet fishery.**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Greg Silber, Fisheries Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2322**RIN:** 0648-AK41**628. • ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES: PROPOSED RULE GOVERNING TAKE OF WEST COAST STEELHEAD****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1531 to 1543; 16 USC 1361 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 227**Legal Deadline:** None

DOC—NOAA

Long-Term Actions

Abstract: The regulation will propose section 9(a) prohibitions for endangered species, with certain exceptions for certain benign and beneficial actions for threatened species of west coast steelhead.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Joe Blum, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-1401
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: joe.blum@noaa.gov

RIN: 0648-AK94

NATIONAL OCEAN SURVEY/OFFICE OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

629. OPERATIONS OF MOTORIZED PERSONAL WATERCRAFT IN THE GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 922

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined

Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Stephanie R. Thornton
Phone: 301 713-3155

RIN: 0648-AK01

630. • MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY—MINOR BOUNDARY REVISION

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1431 et seq

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 922

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NOAA plans to issue regulations to make minor boundary changes to certain near-shore areas of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stephanie Thornton, Chief, Sanctuaries and Reserves Division, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway (N/ORM2), Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-3155

RIN: 0648-AL07

631. • OLYMPIC COAST NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY—ADDITION OF DEFINITION FOR SEABIRDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1431 et seq

CFR Citation: 15 CFR 922

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: NOAA plans to issue regulations to add a definition of the term "seabirds" for the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary. The term "seabird" is used in that sanctuary's regulatory prohibitions. The regulations will define seabird to mean a member of any avian species that spends part or all of its life cycle (e.g., feeding) in or over the sanctuary, including shorebirds, waterfowl, and birds of prey.

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Stephanie Thornton, Chief, Sanctuaries and Reserves Division, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1305 East-West Highway (N/ORM2), Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301 713-3155

RIN: 0648-AL09

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

632. REGIONAL MARINE RESEARCH PROGRAM

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Don Scavia
Phone: 301 713-3338

RIN: 0648-AF20

633. NOAA CLIMATE AND GLOBAL CHANGE PROGRAM—PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: Not yet determined

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Irma DuPree
Phone: 301 427-2089

RIN: 0648-AG51

634. NATIONAL UNDERSEA RESEARCH PROGRAM FUNDING REGULATIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: None

Timetable: Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Henry Frey
Phone: 301 713-2448

RIN: 0648-AH90

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Completed Actions

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

635. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH A CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR AT-SEA SCALES**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/04/98	63 FR 5836
Final Action Effective	03/06/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AG32**636. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO FACILITATE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT IN THE PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn This action has been withdrawn and combined with 0648-AJ20.	02/11/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** William Stelle

Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AH21**637. FMP AMENDMENT 36 FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE BSAI AND FMP AMENDMENT 39 FOR THE GROUND FISH OF THE GOA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory.

Final, Statutory.

Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.

Abstract: These amendments would define a forage fish species category in both FMPs and implement the following forage fish management measures: (1) Directed fishing for forage fish would be prohibited at all times, (2) a maximum retainable bycatch (MRB) percentage of 2 percent would be established for forage fish, and (3) the sale, barter, trade and any other

commercial exchange, as well as the processing of forage fish in a commercial processing facility, would be prohibited, except for fishmeal which could be processed and sold within the 2 percent MRB. The intended effect of this action is to prevent the development of an unrestricted fishery for forage fish which are a critical food source for many marine mammal, seabird and fish species.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/12/97	62 FR 65402
NPRM Comment Period End	01/26/98	
Final Action	03/17/98	63 FR 13009
Final Action Effective	04/15/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AH67**638. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO LIMITED ACCESS MANAGEMENT OF FEDERAL FISHERIES IN AND OFF OF ALASKA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	11/12/97	62 FR 60667
Final Action Effective	12/12/97	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ00**639. AMENDMENT 15 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE REEF FISH RESOURCES OF THE GULF OF MEXICO****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/30/97	62 FR 67714
Final Action Effective	02/01/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** State**Agency Contact:** Andrew J. Kemmerer

Phone: 813 570-5301

RIN: 0648-AJ14**640. AMENDMENT 49 TO THE FMP FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE BSAI****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/03/97	62 FR 63880
Final Action Effective	01/03/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ36**641. AMENDMENT 40 TO THE FMP FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/22/97	62 FR 66829
Final Action Effective	01/21/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer

Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AJ45**642. ATLANTIC SWORDFISH FISHERY; QUOTAS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 630**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/24/97	62 FR 55357
Final Action Effective	10/21/97	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Gary C. Matlock

Phone: 301 713-2334

RIN: 0648-AJ63

DOC—NOAA

Completed Actions

643. AMENDMENT 49 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE GULF OF ALASKA**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/12/97	62 FR 65379
Final Action Effective	01/12/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AJ71**644. FINAL RULE TO IMPLEMENT FRAMEWORK ADJUSTMENT 18 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE NORTHEAST MULTISPECIES FISHERY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/17/98	63 FR 7727

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg
Phone: 978 281-9300**RIN:** 0648-AJ79**645. LIST OF FISHERIES FOR 1998****Priority:** Routine and Frequent**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 229**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/04/98	63 FR 5748
Final Action Effective	02/04/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Robyn Angliss
Phone: 301 713-2322
Fax: 301 713-0376
Email: robyn.angliss@noaa.gov**RIN:** 0648-AJ85**646. INTERIM FINAL RULE TO INCREASE MINIMUM SIZE LIMIT FOR VERMILLION SNAPPER IN FEDERAL WATERS OF GULF OF MEXICO****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 622**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/11/97	62 FR 47765
Final Action Effective	09/14/97	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Andrew J. Kemmerer
Phone: 813 570-5301
Fax: 813 570-5300**RIN:** 0648-AJ89**647. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO CHANGE THE SCALLOP SEASON OPENING DATE****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory.
Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** This action would change the scallop season opening date from January 10 to July 1 in the Prince William Sound and Yakutat Registration Areas to make the fishing season in those areas consistent with the scallop fishing season in the rest of the State.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/24/97	62 FR 62545
NPRM Comment Period End	12/09/97	
Final Action	12/31/97	62 FR 68230
Final Action Effective	01/10/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AJ98**648. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO REVISE SPECIFIED MAXIMUM RETAINABLE BYCATCH PERCENTAGES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Revise specified maximum retainable bycatch percentages in the shortraker/rougheye fishery to a lower level.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/16/98	63 FR 2654
NPRM Comment Period End	02/17/98	
Final Action	03/31/98	63 FR 15334
Final Action Effective	04/30/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK09**649. FMP AMENDMENT 46 FOR THE GROUND FISH FISHERY OF THE GULF OF ALASKA****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory.
Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Remove black and blue rockfish from the FMP so that management is transferred to the State of Alaska.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/02/97	62 FR 63690
NPRM Comment Period End	01/16/98	
Final Action	03/06/98	63 FR 11167
Final Action Effective	04/06/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

DOC—NOAA

Completed Actions

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer,
Regional Administrator, Alaska Region,
Department of Commerce, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, P.O. Box 99802,
Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK13

650. AMENDMENT 34 TO THE GROUND FISH OF THE BERING SEA AND ALEUTIAN ISLANDS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/31/97	62 FR 68228
Final Action Effective	01/30/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK14

651. RULEMAKING TO EXTEND THE INTERIM OBSERVER PROGRAM THROUGH 1998

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/30/97	62 FR 67755
Final Action Effective	01/01/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK15

652. RULEMAKING TO REVISE THE HALIBUT CATCH SHARE PLAN AMENDMENT FOR 1998

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 773c

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 300

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory.
Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published
within 30 days of end of NPRM
comment period.

Abstract: Revise the halibut catch share
plan for Area 4 (Bering Sea and

Aleutian Islands) to remove the
prescribed apportionments for subareas
4A and 4B to prevent a conflict
between the Council's and
Commission's recommendations for
those subareas.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/12/98	63 FR 1812
NPRM Comment Period End	02/11/98	
Final Action Effective	03/15/98	63 FR 13000
Final Action	03/17/98	63 FR 13000

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer,
Regional Administrator, Alaska Region,
Department of Commerce, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, P.O. Box 21668,
Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK18

653. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO REVISE "SURVIVING SPOUSE" LANGUAGE

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Legal Deadline: NPRM, Statutory.
Final, Statutory.
Final regulations to be published
within 30 days of end of NPRM
comment period.

Abstract: To withdraw a proposal to
extend IFQ use privilege to heirs of
deceased QS holders.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/06/97	62 FR 60060
NPRM Comment Period End	12/08/97	
Final Action	03/18/98	63 FR 13161
Final Action Effective	03/18/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer,
Regional Administrator, Alaska Region,
Department of Commerce, National
Oceanic and Atmospheric
Administration, P.O. Box 21668,
Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK19

654. RULEMAKING TO CLARIFY A PROVISION IN THE OBSERVER PROGRAM CGL INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 679

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action Final rule published under old RIN AI95.	11/07/97	62 FR 60182
Final Action Effective	11/07/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK30

655. REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE INCIDENTAL TAKING OF RINGED SEALS DURING SEISMIC OPERATIONS DURING WINTER IN THE U.S. BEAUFORT SEA

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 216

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	02/02/98	63 FR 5277

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Kenneth R.
Hollingshead
Phone: 301 713-2055
Fax: 301 713-0376

RIN: 0648-AK33

656. ATLANTIC MACKEREL, SQUID, AND BUTTERFISH FISHERIES

Priority: Info./Admin./Other

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 648

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	09/12/97	62 FR 48047
Final Action Effective	10/14/97	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Dr. Andrew A.
Rosenberg
Phone: 508 281-9200

RIN: 0648-AK37

DOC—NOAA

Completed Actions

657. REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO IMPLEMENT SEABIRD AVOIDANCE MEASURES IN THE PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERY OFF OF ALASKA**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 679**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory. Final regulations to be published within 30 days of end of NPRM comment period.**Abstract:** Implement seabird avoidance measures in the Pacific halibut longline fishery. Require gear modifications, seabird avoidance devices, or changes in fishing methods designed to reduce the incidental mortality of seabirds in the directed Pacific halibut fishery in U.S. convention waters off Alaska.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	12/15/97	62 FR 65638
NPRM Comment Period End	01/14/98	
Final Action	03/06/98	63 FR 11161
Final Action Effective	04/06/98	

Small Entities Affected: Businesses**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228**RIN:** 0648-AK38**658. • 1998 SPECIFICATIONS FOR SUMMER FLOUNDER, SCUP, AND BLACK SEA BASS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** Final, Statutory.**Abstract:** Implements the final commercial specifications for the 1998 Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Fisheries.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/20/97	62 FR 54417
NPRM Comment Period End	11/17/97	
Final Action	12/18/97	62 FR 66304
Final Action Effective	01/01/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200
Fax: 978 281-9135**RIN:** 0648-AK44**659. • ENDANGERED FISH OR WILDLIFE; SPECIAL PROHIBITIONS; NORTH ATLANTIC RIGHT WHALE PROTECTION****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1531 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 222**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** The final rule closes the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast Coastal segments of the Atlantic pelagic drift gillnet fishery for swordfish, tuna, and shark through July 31, 1998. The action is needed to avoid the likelihood that this fishery will jeopardize the continued existence of the northern right whale.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/03/97	62 FR 59335
NPRM Comment Period End	11/18/97	
Final Action	12/01/97	62 FR 63467

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Gregory Silber, Ph.D./Michael Payne, Fishery Biologist, Office of Protected Resources, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Phone: 301 713-2322
Fax: 301 713-0376**RIN:** 0648-AK46**660. • FINAL 1998 INITIAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR ATLANTIC MACKEREL, SQUID, AND BUTTERFISH FISHERIES****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Legal Deadline:** NPRM, Statutory. Final, Statutory.**Abstract:** Final initial specifications for the 1998 fishing year for Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	11/26/97	62 FR 63064
NPRM Comment Period End	12/26/97	
Final Action Effective	01/01/98	
Final Action	01/12/98	63 FR 1773

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg, Regional Administrator, Northeast Region, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
Phone: 978 281-9200
Fax: 978 281-9135**RIN:** 0648-AK47**661. • CONTROL DATE FOR THE COASTAL PELAGICS FISHERY; NORTHERN ANCHOVY****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 16 USC 1801 et seq**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 660**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** The Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) is developing an amendment to the Northern Anchovy Fishery Management Plan (FMP) that may place small coastal pelagic species under Federal management along with northern anchovy. Proposed management options include limiting effort by controlling the number and/or capacity of vessels harvesting coastal pelagic resources off Washington, Oregon, and California. This notice is intended to notify fishermen that anyone entering the coastal pelagics fishery after November 5, 1997, may not be eligible to continue participating in the fishery under the new amendment.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/17/97	62 FR 66049
Final Action Effective	01/16/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. William T. Hogarth, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and

DOC—NOAA

Completed Actions

Atmospheric Administration, 501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4200, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213
Phone: 562 980-4001

RIN: 0648-AK51

**662. • CONTROL DATE FOR
LONGLINE FISHERY IN AMERICAN
SAMOA**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 1801 et seq

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 660

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This notice announces that persons who, after November 13, 1997, enter the pelagic longline fishery in American Samoa will not necessarily be assured of eligibility for continuing participation in the fishery if, in the future, the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) prepares and NMFS approves a program limiting entry or effort. This notice also announces that vessels greater than 50 ft. (15.2 m) in length that are registered for use with Federal general longline permits after November 13, 1997, would not be assured of being allowed to use longline gear to fish for pelagic management unit species within 100 nautical miles (nm) from the coast lines of American Samoa. This notice does not commit the Council to limit effort, nor does it prevent any other date from being selected for eligibility to participate in the fishery. The Council also may use other criteria to limit fishing effort associated with the proposed area closure around American Samoa.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/23/98	63 FR 3532
Final Action Effective	02/23/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Alvin Katekaru, Fishery Management Specialist, Pacific Islands Area Office, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2570 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822-2396
Phone: 808 973-2985

RIN: 0648-AK56

**663. • PROPOSED CHANGES TO
CATCH SHARING PLAN FOR
HARVEST OF PACIFIC HALIBUT OFF
WASHINGTON, OREGON, AND
CALIFORNIA AND PROPOSED SPORT
FISHERY MANAGEMENT MEASURES
TO IMPLEMENT PLAN**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 773C

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 300

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Changes to catch sharing plan for Pacific halibut of Washington, Oregon and California and management measures for the 1998 sport fishery.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	01/26/98	63 FR 3693
NPRM Comment Period End	02/27/98	
Final Action Effective	03/15/98	63 FR 13000
Final Action	03/17/98	63 FR 13000

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: William Stelle, Regional Administrator, Northwest Region, NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 7600 Sand Point Way NE., BIN C15700, Bldg. 1, Seattle, WA 98115-0070
Phone: 206 526-6150

RIN: 0648-AK57

**664. • PACIFIC HALIBUT FISHERIES:
ANNUAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES
AND APPROVAL OF CATCH SHARING
PLANS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 16 USC 773C

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 300

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: Annual management measures of the International Pacific Halibut Commission for 1998; approval of catch sharing plans for Areas 2A and 4.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action Effective	03/15/98	63 FR 13000
Final Action	03/17/98	63 FR 13000

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Steven Pennoyer, Regional Administrator, Alaska Region,

NMFS, Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, Alaska 99802
Phone: 907 586-7228

RIN: 0648-AK58

**665. DESIGNATED CRITICAL
HABITAT; JOHNSON'S SEAGRASS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 226

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	02/13/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Margaret C. Lorenz
Phone: 301 713-1401

RIN: 0648-AF79

**666. GENERAL PROVISIONS;
ENDANGERED FISH OR WILDLIFE;
THREATENED FISH AND WILDLIFE;
SEA TURTLE CONSERVATION
MEASURES (SECTION 9
PROTECTION)**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 217; 50 CFR 220; 50 CFR 221; 50 CFR 222; 50 CFR 223; 50 CFR 224; 50 CFR 227

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	02/13/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: State

Agency Contact: Robert C. Ziobro
Phone: 310 713-1401

RIN: 0648-AG38

**667. DESIGNATED CRITICAL
HABITAT; ATLANTIC SALMON**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 50 CFR 226

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	03/13/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Marta Nammack
Phone: 301 713-1401

RIN: 0648-AG50

DOC—NOAA

Completed Actions

668. DESIGNATED CRITICAL HABITAT; UMPQUA RIVER CUTTHROAT TROUT**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 226**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	01/09/98	63 FR 1388
Final Action Effective	02/09/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Joe Blum
Phone: 301 713-1401**RIN:** 0648-AG58**669. PROPOSED DESIGNATION OF CRITICAL HABITAT FOR PUGET SOUND SALMON STOCKS****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 226**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Withdrawn	04/15/98	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined**Agency Contact:** Joe Blum
Phone: 301 713-1401**RIN:** 0648-AH11**670. AMENDMENT 10 TO THE SUMMER FLOUNDER FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN****Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant.
Major status under 5 USC 801 is undetermined.**Unfunded Mandates:** Undetermined**CFR Citation:** 50 CFR 648**Completed:**

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	12/03/97	62 FR 63872
Final Action Effective	01/01/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None**Agency Contact:** Dr. Andrew A. Rosenberg
Phone: 978 281-9200**RIN:** 0648-AJ55

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Long-Term Actions

National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)

671. • IMPROVEMENT OF TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT OF INTERNET NAMES AND ADDRESSES**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Legal Authority:** 15 USC 1512; 47 USC 902(b)(2)(H); 47 USC 902(b)(2)(I); 47 USC 904(c)(1)**CFR Citation:** None**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** Consistent with the President's Electronic Commerce Directive of July 1, 1997, this proposed rule sets forth ways to improve technical management of the Internet Domain Name System (DNS). It describes the process by which the Federal Government will transfer management of the Internet DNS to a private, not-for-profit corporation andproposes a method for introducing competition in the administration and addition of new Internet top-level domains. It further proposes the introduction of competition into the Domain name registration business and recommends guidelines under which domain name business and registration would operate. Further information available at <http://www.doc.gov>.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Notice; Request for Comment	07/02/97	62 FR 35896
Registration and Administration of Internet Domain		
NPRM	02/20/98	63 FR 8826

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM Comment Period End	03/23/98	
Final Action	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined**Government Levels Affected:**
Undetermined**Agency Contact:** J. Beckwith Burr, Associate Administrator, Office of International Affairs, Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Room 4701, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-1304
Fax: 202 482-1865
Email: bbuff@ntia.doc.gov
RIN: 0660-AA11

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Prerule Stage

Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)

672. 1998 CHANGES TO PATENT PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE**Priority:** Substantive, Nonsignificant**Reinventing Government:** This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.**Legal Authority:** 35 USC 6**CFR Citation:** 37 CFR 1; 37 CFR 5**Legal Deadline:** None**Abstract:** The proposed rule changes would simplify requirements, rearrange for better context, and eliminate unnecessary rules.**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	05/00/98	
ANPRM Comment Period End	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

DOC—PTO

Prerule Stage

Agency Contact: Hiram H. Bernstein,
Senior Legal Advisor, Department of
Commerce, Patent and Trademark

Office, Box DAC, Assistant
Commissioner for Patents, Washington,
DC 20231

Phone: 703 305-9285
Fax: 703 308-6916
RIN: 0651-AA94

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)

Final Rule Stage

**673. MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES TO
TTAB RULES**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 15 USC 1123

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 2

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: These changes clarify TTAB rules, conform the rules to current practice, make minor modifications to simplify practice, and make minor corrections.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	06/05/97	62 FR 30802
NPRM Comment Period End	08/04/97	
Final Action	04/00/98	
Final Action Effective	05/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: David Sams, Chief
Administrative Trademark Judge,
Department of Commerce, Patent and
Trademark Office, 2900 Crystal Drive,
BOX TTAB, Arlington, VA 22202
Phone: 703 308-9300
Fax: 703 308-9333

RIN: 0651-AA87

**674. CHANGES IMPLEMENTING
INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTABLE
NUCLEOTIDE AND/OR AMINO ACID
SEQUENCE LISTINGS**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 35 USC 6

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1.77; 37 CFR
1.821; 37 CFR 1.822; 37 CFR 1.823; 37
CFR 1.824; 37 CFR 1.825

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: This rulemaking simplifies
the requirements for submitting nucleic

acid or amino acid sequences in
computer readable form.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	10/04/96	61 FR 51855
NPRM Comment Period End	12/03/96	
Final Action	06/00/98	
Final Action Effective	07/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Esther M. Kepplinger,
Department of Commerce, Patent and
Trademark Office, Box Comments-
Patents, Assistant Commissioner for
Patents, Washington, DC 20231
Phone: 703 308-2339
Fax: 703 308-3601
Email: esther.kepplinger@uspto.gov

RIN: 0651-AA88

**675. REVISION OF PATENT AND
TRADEMARK FEES FOR FISCAL
YEAR 1999**

Priority: Routine and Frequent

Legal Authority: 35 USC 41; 15 USC
1115; 35 USC 6; 35 USC 376; 15 USC
1051; 15 USC 1113; 15 USC 1123; PL
101-508; PL 102-204; PL 103-66

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1.16 to 1.21; 37
CFR 1.26; 37 CFR 1.445; 37 CFR 1.482;
37 CFR 1.492; 37 CFR 2.6

Legal Deadline: Final, Statutory,
October 1, 1998.

Abstract: This rulemaking revises
certain patent and trademark fees to
reflect fluctuations in the Consumer
Price Index (CPI) consistent with the
Patent and Trademark Authorization
Act of 1991 (PL 102-204).

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	08/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Matthew Lee,
Systems Analyst, Department of
Commerce, Patent and Trademark
Office, Washington, DC 20231
Phone: 703 305-8051

RIN: 0651-AA96

**676. • CHANGES TO CONTINUED
PROSECUTION APPLICATION
PRACTICES**

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Legal Authority: 35 USC 6

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1

Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: The Patent and Trademark
Office (Office) is amending its
regulations to remove the requirement
that the prior application of a
continued prosecution application
(CPA) must have been filed on or after
June 8, 1995. This requirement is being
removed in response to requests from
the public.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	02/04/98	63 FR 5732
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None

Government Levels Affected: None

Agency Contact: Hiram H Bernstein,
Senior Legal Advisor, Department of
Commerce, Patent and Trademark
Office, Washington, DC 20231
Phone: 703 305-9285

RIN: 0651-AA97

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)
Long-Term Actions
**677. PATENT APPLICATION
ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION RULES**
Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1; 37 CFR 2**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	11/30/92	57 FR 56537
ANPRM Comment Period End	03/01/93	

Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Paul Salmon
Phone: 703 305-8600

RIN: 0651-AA50
**678. CHANGES TO IMPLEMENT 18-
MONTH PUBLICATION OF PATENT
APPLICATIONS**
Priority: Other Significant**CFR Citation:** 37 CFR 1**Timetable:**

Action	Date	FR Cite
Notice of Public Hearing and Request for Public Comments	12/12/94	59 FR 63966
NPRM	08/15/95	60 FR 42352
NPRM Comment Period End	09/19/95	

**Procedures for Amending Patent
Applications**

Final Rule 08/19/96 (61 FR 42790)

Final Rule Effective 09/23/96

Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Robert W. Bahr
Phone: 703 305-8850

Fax: 703 305-8825

RIN: 0651-AA75
**679. RULES OF PRACTICE IN PATENT
CASES; REEXAMINATION
PROCEEDINGS**
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1.901 to 1.907;
37 CFR 1.909; 37 CFR 1.911; 37 CFR
1.913; 37 CFR 1.915; 37 CFR 1.917; 37
CFR 1.919; 37 CFR 1.921; 37 CFR 1.923

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
NPRM	08/11/95	60 FR 41035
NPRM Comment Period End	09/22/95	

Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Gerald A. Dost
Phone: 703 305-9282

Fax: 703 305-8825

RIN: 0651-AA79
680. LIMITATIONS IN PATENT CLAIMS
Priority: Other Significant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1.75**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Kenneth Corsello
Phone: 202 305-9041

Fax: 703 305-9373

Email: kenneth.corsello@uspto.gov

RIN: 0651-AA91
**681. REQUIREMENTS FOR
REGISTRATION TO PRACTICE
BEFORE THE PTO IN PATENT CASES**
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1.21; 37 CFR
10.7; 37 CFR 10.11

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	09/30/96	61 FR 51072
ANPRM Comment Period End	12/06/96	

Next Action Undetermined

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Karen L. Bovard
Phone: 703 306-4097

RIN: 0651-AA93
**682. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS
FOR REGISTRATION TO PRACTICE
BEFORE THE PTO IN PATENT CASES**
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant**CFR Citation:** 37 CFR 10.7**Timetable:** Next Action Undetermined**Small Entities Affected:** None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Karen L. Bovard
Phone: 703 306-4097

RIN: 0651-AA95
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)
Patent and Trademark Office (PTO)
Completed Actions
**683. CHANGES TO PATENT
PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE**
Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant

Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or

duplication, or streamline
requirements.

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 1; 37 CFR 3; 37
CFR 5; 37 CFR 7

Completed:

Reason	Date	FR Cite
Final Action	10/10/97	62 FR 53132
Final Action Effective	12/01/97	

Small Entities Affected: None**Government Levels Affected:** None

Agency Contact: Hiram H. Bernstein
Phone: 703 305-9285

Fax: 703 308-6916

RIN: 0651-AA80

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Technology Administration (TA)

Final Rule Stage

684. RIGHTS TO INVENTIONS MADE BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND SMALL BUSINESS FIRMS UNDER GOVERNMENT GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Priority: Other Significant
Legal Authority: 35 USC 206
CFR Citation: 37 CFR 401
Legal Deadline: None

Abstract: We are evaluating the comments and will be making minor changes to the regulation which permitted electronic reporting of inventions.

Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	08/14/95	60 FR 41811
Comment Period End	09/13/95	
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: Federal
Agency Contact: Jon Paugh, Acting Director, Technology Competitiveness, Department of Commerce, Technology Administration, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-2100
RIN: 0692-AA14

685. ACQUISITION AND PROTECTION OF FOREIGN RIGHTS IN INVENTIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Legal Authority: EO 10096; 15 USC 3710d
CFR Citation: 37 CFR 101; 37 CFR 501
Legal Deadline: None
Abstract: On August 7, 1996, 37 CFR part 101 was abolished and 37 CFR part 501 expanded to cover foreign rights

of inventions made by Federal employees.
We are evaluating the comments received on the interim final rule and will be making minor changes to the regulation.
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
Interim Final Rule	08/07/96	61 FR 40997
Final Action	04/00/98	

Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: Federal
Agency Contact: John H. Raubitschek, Patent Counsel, Department of Commerce, Technology Administration, RH4613, Washington, DC 20230
Phone: 202 482-8010
Fax: 202 482-0523
RIN: 0692-AA15

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Technology Administration (TA)

Long-Term Actions

686. PROMOTION OF PRIVATE SECTOR INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
CFR Citation: 15 CFR 1160 subpart A
Timetable:

Action	Date	FR Cite
ANPRM	00/00/00	

Small Entities Affected: Undetermined
Government Levels Affected: Undetermined

Agency Contact: Mark Bohannon
Phone: 202 482-1984
RIN: 0692-AA13

687. LICENSING OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED INVENTIONS

Priority: Substantive, Nonsignificant
Reinventing Government: This rulemaking is part of the Reinventing Government effort. It will revise text in the CFR to reduce burden or duplication, or streamline requirements.

CFR Citation: 37 CFR 404
Timetable: Next Action Undetermined
Small Entities Affected: None
Government Levels Affected: None
Agency Contact: John H. Raubitschek
Phone: 202 482-8010
Fax: 202 482-0523
RIN: 0692-AA17
[FR Doc. 98-5143 Filed 04-24-98; 8:45 am]
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